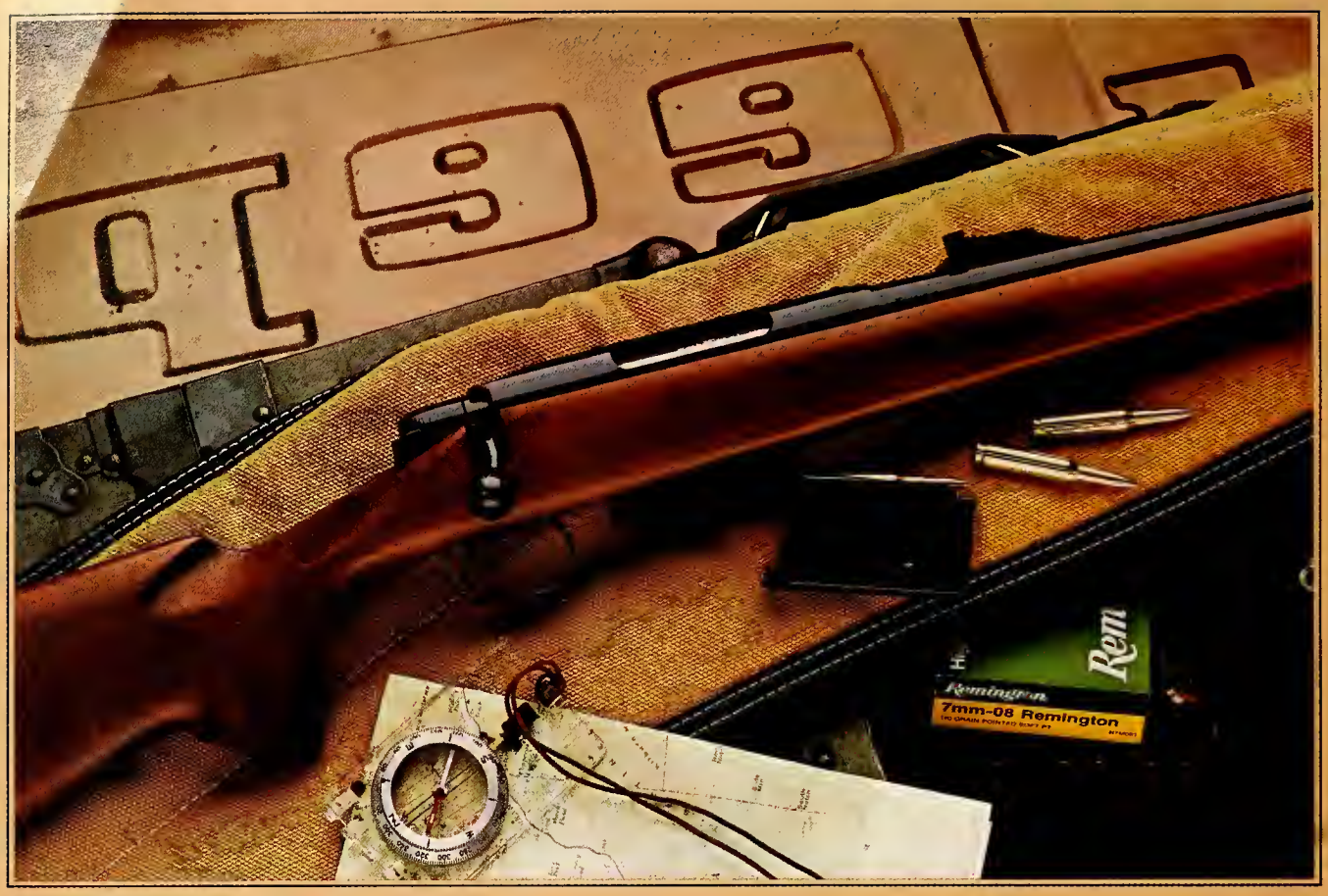
The National

Future Farmer

April-May, 1981

Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America



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A Word With The Editor

Five persons were named "FFA Achievers" by the FFA Board of Directors and National Officers at their January meeting. These five individuals will be honored in a special section of the Hall of Achievement now being developed at the National FFA Center. Prior to their selection each state association had been asked to nominate persons to be considered.

The Boards agreed that individuals to be considered must have been vocational agriculture students and FFA or NFA members. Secondly, they decided to name one person from each of the following areas: leadership, agricultural production, agribusiness, agricultural education and one person at large.

Here are the five individuals selected to be the first honored in the FFA Hall of Achievement:

LEADERSHIP: Jimmy Carter—a man who rose from secretary of his FFA chapter in Plains, Georgia, to president of the United States.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION: Jerry Litton. Though he could have qualified in several categories, the late Congressman Litton from Missouri was selected to represent agricultural production. Mr. Litton started with Charolais cattle as an FFA member and became one of the nation's top Charolais breeders. He worked in partnership with his father to build his farming program into a multi-million dollar operation. Mr. Litton died in a plane crash in 1976.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION: H.N. Hunsicker, the first FFA member to become national FFA advisor, was selected to represent agricultural education. Mr. Hunsicker has been a teacher of vocational agriculture, state executive secretary and state advisor—all in West Virginia. At the time of his retirement in 1979, he was a program specialist in agricultural education for what is now the U.S. Department of Education.

AGRIBUSINESS: R.M. Hendrickson, president of the Agricultural Division of Pfizer, Inc., was chosen as the FFA Achiever representing agribusiness. Mr. Hendrickson was an agriculture teacher in Minnesota before accepting a position in agribusiness. He also served as the 1980 chairman of the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

AT LARGE: Donald N. McDowell was an agriculture teacher, director of agriculture in Wisconsin and executive director of the FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee, at the time of his retirement.

In a future issue, we will tell you more about these individuals and the acomplishments that led to their selection. But for now, we wanted to let you know who they are and also to let you know that work is continuing on your Hall of Achievement.

Wilson Carnes

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Our Cover

Many FFA members work and live on diversified farms. Such is the case with Daryl Beiler, whose story begins on page 12. On our cover, Daryl is shown preparing automated equipment for the daily feeding of the Holstein dairy herd. The Beilers own and operate one of the top dairies in a productive Pennsylvania county but Daryl has "taken a liking" to another kind of farming: swine production.

Cover photo by Jeffrey Tennant

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The FFA

NEWS IN BRIEF

ANOTHER EXHIBIT is now part of FFA's national Hall of Achievement, scheduled to open in June. International Harvester will sponsor "Forecast For Agriculture," a display designed to give Hall tourists a look at tomorrow's farming and agribusiness. Two new sponsors of the Hall are the Kellogg Company and Universal Uniform.

FFA MEMBERS still in high school can win $2,000 in U.S. savings bonds and an engraved rifle in the annual Marlin Hunter Safety Essay Contest. If you are enrolled in, or have completed, a state-sponsored hunter safety instruction program, you are eligible. The essays, due May 1, must use the topic, "What I Should Do To Preserve the Sport of Hunting." Entry forms are available from hunter safety instructors or by writing: Marlin Essay Contest, 800 Turks Head Building, Providence, Rhode Island 02903.

K. ELLIOTT NOWELS exits FFA after serving the organization on *The National FUTURE FARMER* staff and, most recently, as Director of Information. Nowels, once an FFA member in Ohio, is now vice president—media production with Venard Films, Ltd., of East Peoria, Illinois. The Venard company has produced many films for FFA, including the award-winning, "Convention Time—FFA." Nowels will soon begin work on a new FFA film portraying the importance of supervised occupational experience programs.

FFA ALUMNI members are invited to participate in a trip to France and West Germany from July 24 to August 21. The French-American Foundation and the Carl Duisberg Society are offering this tour of farms, cooperatives, agribusiness and historic sites. Participants pay only about one-third the normal cost. Applications, due May 1, can be obtained from Ms. Cynthia Kass, The French-American Foundation, 680 Park Avenue, New York, New York 20021.

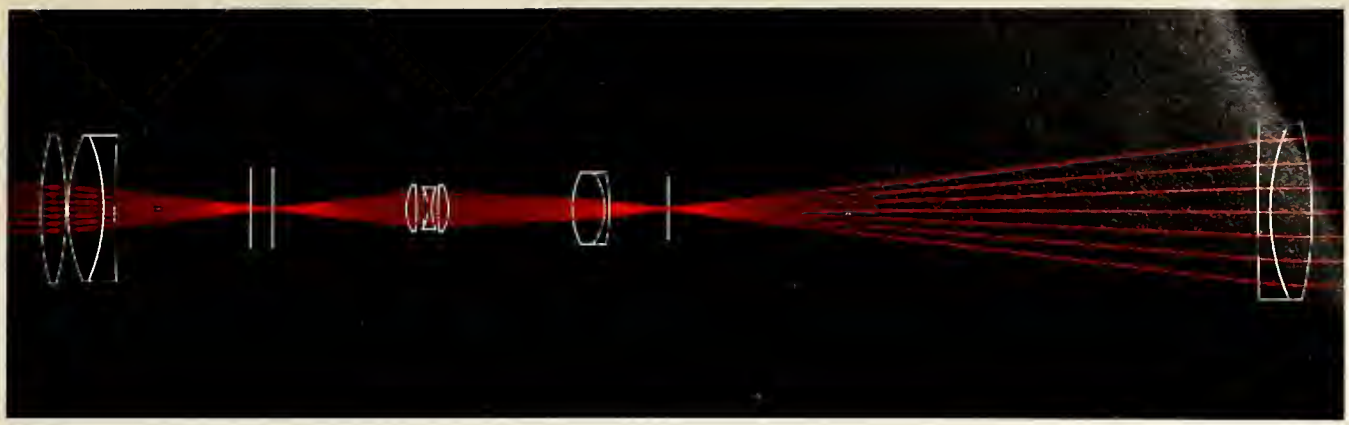
FFA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, in their last meeting, took action on many items of national significance. Among those decisions: approval of a national publicity touring program including 22 chorus members and 10 bandsmen, to be made available for funding through the National FFA Foundation and approval of a $25 selling price for the official FFA jacket beginning in the 1981 catalog.

WILLIAM F. STAGG, formerly FFA's chief photographer, has been named FFA Visual Specialist. A native of Virginia, Bill attended Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in communications in 1978. While at VPI, he served as president of Zeta Psi fraternity and as student representative to the communications faculty. Bill will now manage the photographic and audio-visual division of FFA information services and serve as producer and director for all FFA in-house production.

Bill Stagg

WORK EXPERIENCE ABROAD participants worked on farms and agricultural enterprises in 17 countries last year. Eighty-two FFA members took advantage of WEA, while 159 foreign students found their way to American agricultural establishments through the program.

YOUR NATIONAL OFFICERS recently completed an extensive national "goodwill" tour that "keeps a line of communication open between the FFA and the agriculture industry," according to National FFA Advisor Byron Rawls. The tour also enables officers to thank FFA supporters. Stops included meetings with leaders in industry, education, civic clubs and government, including a visit with Secretary of Agriculture John Block (below).



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The optical system diagram above, which was used to create the Leupold Vari-X III 3.5x10 scope, was actually drawn by an electronic plotter from the computer program that designed the system. Computers are used by Leupold to achieve optimum design characteristics in each scope, including the desired magnification, the field of view and the eye relief... the distance from your eye to the metal rim of the eyepiece. This is where Leupold never scrimps, nor has the company ever allowed eye relief... and the shooter's safety... to be sacrificed in order to squeeze out more field of view.

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Readers Report

MAILBAG

Alexandria, Virginia

We are most appreciative of the listing of several of our student financial aid guides in a recent issue of your helpful magazine (in conjunction with "Financial Aid Maze" in the December-January issue).

We have had numerous requests for the publications in which the originators identified your magazine as their source. No doubt there were many more requests—but these did not provide us with a source.

It does indicate, though, that you enjoy great credibility with your readers. Otherwise, they would not act on any of your recommendations.

You can be sure that we filled all requests within 24 hours of receipt, and we sincerely hope that we have been of assistance to your readers.

Robert Leider
President
Octameron Associates

Blacksburg, Virginia

Thank you very much for using the article on the Virginia Association's Bedford Summer Conference in *The National FUTURE FARMER*. Although the workshop was very successful, the printing of the results in the magazine made the program complete.

The leadership workshop was my last FFA activity before I moved from Bedford County to the agricultural education program area at Virginia Tech. Last evening I got telephone calls from students at both of the high schools in which I taught. They were extremely proud to have been a part of the workshop and the magazine. Having their pictures and the article appear in the magazine was quite a Christmas gift for them and me.

Again, I want to thank you very much for coverage of the summer workshop. It will be an event that will remain with the Bedford FFA members throughout their lives.

Dwight Paulette
Agricultural Education
Virginia Polytechnic Institute

Denver, Colorado

On behalf of the sheep industry we certainly appreciate the good play that sheep got on the 1981 Official FFA Calendars. It was certainly very well done.

Richard Biglin
Executive Director
American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.

Emory, Texas

In the February-March, 1981, Future Farmers magazine—how could I get more information about the wood-burning tractor? Any information you have will be appreciated. My family owns a sawmill and would like to know more about the wood-burning tractor.

Ruth Foreman

We will forward your request to the chapter in Florida. They may have additional information they can share with you.—Ed.

New Madrid, Missouri

I was looking through the February-March, 1981, issue and read about the teacher shortage of vocational agriculture.

I'm a sophomore and was thinking about getting into ag classes in college and going into agriculture. I would really be glad if you could send me more information on this subject and/or an address where I can get more information. And too, maybe some names of the best colleges that maybe I can write to and get some information.

Judy Gail Smith

It's good to learn of your interest in teaching vocational agriculture. There are two schools in Missouri that have a course for vocational agriculture teachers: University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri 65211 or Northwest Missouri State University, Marysville, Missouri 64468.

You will find other agriculture schools, and particularly the land grant colleges, have courses training teachers in vocational agriculture, so you might write to these if you're interested in schools in other states. You should be able to get this information at your local school library.

In addition, the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association has a brochure on teaching agriculture. Your own school's vocational agriculture instructor can also help you learn about the profession.—Ed.

San Luis Obispo, California

The February-March, 1981, issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER* is terrific. The mix between short, captioned information and feature stories is excellent. I bet your readership of this issue is the highest ever. The quality of photos, four color and black and white are award winning qualities.

Keep up the good work!

Larry P. Rathbun, Head
Agricultural Education Department
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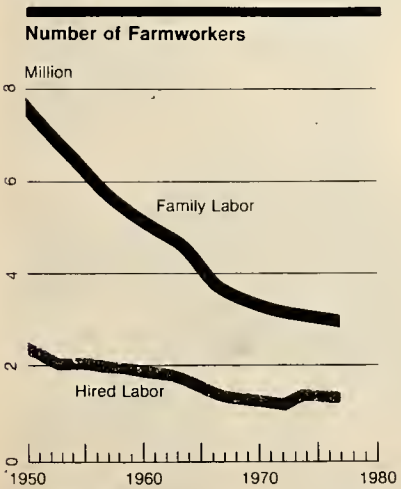
Agriculture

LOOKING AHEAD

AGRICULTURE'S FIRST electronic marketing information service began transmission last month, announced Tandy Corporation/Radio Shack and Professional Farmers of America. Called Instant Update, the service provides farmers and agribusinessmen with immediate access to market-making events that affect commodity prices, crop yields and other data. Terminals, as shown below, utilize standard telephone lines and TV sets to display information.

MAJOR FORCES transforming the organization and management of U.S. farming include inflation, capital-intensive new technologies, and nonfarm job opportunities, say USDA economists. Looking ahead, such forces will lead to: further declines in farm numbers but at a slower rate than in the 50s and 60s, increased concentration of production among the largest producers and strong pressures for increased separation of ownership and resources used in farming. The chart below illustrates one farming "revolution,"—fewer workers producing more goods.



FARMERS constitute only 7.8 percent of all landowners in the United States, but they own 46 percent of the nation's land. Those figures, taken from a USDA report and the *Farm Paper Letter*, compare with white- and blue-collar workers owning only about one-fourth of America's privately held land. The federal government owns 34 percent of the nation's 2.3 billion acres of land. Only one-tenth of 1 percent of America's land is owned by those residing outside the U.S.

INCREASED NUMBERS of small and large farms and decreases in those of medium size are outlined in findings of the 1978 Census of Agriculture. A farm, for census purposes, is defined as an operation which had, or normally would have had, $1,000 or more in agricultural product sales during 1978. Census figures show a total of 2,479,866 farms, averaging 416 acres in size. Based on adjusted 1974 census figures, the count of farms dropped 150,000, the smallest drop in recent years.

SILENT THIEVES may be stealing valuable milk production and weight gains from your dairy cattle, says A.C. Todd, University of Wisconsin-Madison veterinary parasitologist. "Nine out of ten dairy cattle have worms," explains Todd. "I've never tested a herd that didn't have them." Todd says dairymen should deworm even if the operation is clean and cattle look healthy. In some herds, treating cattle with no worm infection symptoms has increased milk production 300 to 600 pounds a lactation.

A SHORTAGE of trained agriculturists will exist in the next five years, says Dr. Burton Brage of South Dakota State University. Brage says total average annual demand for college graduates with agricultural training will exceed available supply by 15 percent. Most extensive shortages are expected in agricultural engineering, agricultural business management, food and plant sciences. Because of increasing world populations, capable experts to meet the world's needs must be trained. Oversupplies are expected in natural resources disciplines and media specialties.

PRESENT RATES of farmland loss would have the nation's cropland base "used up" by the year 2000 while production demands go on rising, reveals the federal National Agricultural Lands Study. The report shows competing demands for America's farmland could force widespread use of less productive lands and result in even higher food and fiber production costs if solutions are not found. On a positive note, the study also points out that population and growth trends could continue without disruption and loss of productive farmland.

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A Center for Agriculture

The Winters, California, FFA Chapter conspired with school and community to build an impressive, and needed, facility.

By Ed Goodykoontz

FFA member Larry Pisani shows his prize winning steer to Dennis Mariani of the local Agricultural Advisory Committee.

BLEND a spirited Future Farmers of America Chapter and a dedicated ag teacher with a community that cares and you produce a success story. The success story in this case is a modern agricultural education center for Winters, California, School District students.

The main building situated on ten acres on the edge of Winters, a city of 3,000 residents in the Sacramento Valley, houses two large classrooms, an office, conference library, restrooms and a 60-foot by 100-foot shop area. Flanking it is a 60-foot by 200-foot project barn containing animal pens, show arena and feed mill. Available is the necessary farm equipment to conduct crop projects.

"There's still a lot to be done," grey-haired Joe Aguiar, in his 23rd year as Winters ag teacher and FFA advisor, admits, "but we're getting there. I think it will probably take about three years to get everything the way we want it. This community has been great in helping us. It's really nice when you have people come in and hand you a check or provide materials you can use."

When completed, Mr. Aguiar envisions the area surrounding the buildings converted into three acres of irrigated pasture for livestock and a two-acre orchard for instruction. Three acres will be split into small plots where FFA students can grow tomatoes, sugar beets or a variety of vegetable crops which flourish in the Sacramento Valley.

Future Farmers are working toward the completion goal, receiving on the job training building animal pens, bins for feed storage, installing arc and gas welding booths in the shop and landscaping. They also carry on regular FFA projects.

This showplace modestly began in 1964 when Mr. Aguiar faced the problem of providing space for city students who lacked facilities to house their projects. He decided a barn on school property would meet their needs. An obliging farmer donated a chicken barn.

FFA chapter members and volunteers tore down the building, board by board, and erected a project barn. Enrollment in agriculture classes rapidly increased during the next few years. Then California's Field Act, requiring school buildings to withstand earthquakes, entered the picture. The Winters School District trustees approved constructing a junior high school on the site occupied by the barn. It was razed with a promise by the trustees there would be a replacement.

That was in 1971. Ag class enrollment slumped due to a lack of project space. Organized five years later, an Agricultural Advisory Committee, representing a cross-section of school district residents, began working with school officials, Aguiar and FFA'ers to develop a building plan. An architect provided a schematic drawing of the project. The school trustees agreed to

(Continued on Page 20)

Winters Advisor Joe Aguiar works with chapter member Joseph Castro in the center's ag mechanics/shop area.

Torie Crowe, a student of ornamental horticulture at the center, finishes another phase of FFA's landscape project.

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A Place for Him in Farming

Now on his way to a farming career, Daryl Beiler supplies the diligent labor demanded by a progressive diversified operation.

TAKE one industrious FFA member, involve him on a productive farm, give him a chance to farm full-time and what do you get? In Daryl Beiler's case, you get an enthusiastic young farmer with lofty ambitions and a progressive swine operation worth over $125,000.

Daryl, a member of the Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania, FFA Chapter, is definitely industrious. His farming interests and performance recently culminated in a regional FFA swine production proficiency award. The productive farm is no problem: the Elam Beiler dairy consistently ranks among the top herds in the county. As as far as farming full-time—well, Daryl wouldn't have it any other way.

"Since graduating from school," says the hard-working 19-year-old, "I've become much more aware of the goings-on around here—what's needed, what directions we should take. I'm enjoying every minute of farming full-time."

Working alongside his father, Elam, Daryl has assumed many management responsibilities on the home farm. Dad Beiler readily admits, with a slight bit of humor, "I won't want this place in 25 years," so Daryl spends many long hours with his father learning the ropes of commercial farming. Mom Nancy, brothers Don and Duane and sister Wanda are an important part of the team, too, but their obligations to home, school and career limit involvement. A diversified farm always demands time.

"We have 150 tillable acres here," Daryl says. "The corn, alfalfa and oat crops provide the bulk of our feed, though we do buy supplements. We're milking 34 registered Holstein cows and plan to expand the herd to 50. And the hogs—we're finishing around 2,000 a year."

Though the family talks in terms of "we," Daryl and Elam have drifted into rather distinct roles on the farm. Daryl, who has his sights set on managing the whole operation someday, explains:

"We have two businesses going—the dairy is mainly Dad's, and the hogs are mainly mine. We cover for each other, too. When he's away, I take care of the cows. When I'm away, he takes care of the hogs."

Serving as a state officer last year took Daryl away from the farm but provided a valuable experience in leadership. Now, though, Daryl has shifted his ambitions to those that would not require lengthy absences from the farm.

"I've ruled out running for national FFA office," he says, "because of the obligations here. But I'm still shooting for the American Farmer degree, and hope for a chance

Daryl's new hog barn has already sparked plans for expansion.

Daryl checks the morning's milk yield with his father, and partner, Elam.

The family dairy enabled Daryl to learn production and management techniques.

at Star Farmer." The past chapter treasurer, area president and Star Greenhand goes on to say, "I don't know where I'd be without FFA—it's offered me so many opportunities."

Daryl keeps a sharp lookout for opportunity. "Three years ago," he says of one such situation, "we started talking hogs around here. None of us had experience with swine but we saw it as a way to integrate our feeding operation and stabilize our income from the milk. Once we decided to give hogs a try, the only thing that stood in the way was financing.

In the winter of Daryl's senior year (1979), steps were taken to procure funds for the swine operation. Daryl made his plans for a loan known to his parents, who both agreed the investment would be worthy. "I favored it," says Nancy, "because the farm with just the dairy wasn't big enough for both of them."

With expansion in mind, and with a potentially profitable venture in the works, Daryl arranged an appointment with a local bank loan officer. Since the bank needed solid evidence that the enterprise would be a good credit risk, the loan officer worked with Daryl in preparing necessary data.

"I had already assessed my financial needs," says Daryl, "and I was confident in the project. With FFA's emphasis on management, I felt good about our business records and standing. I also knew I would be working with contract hogs my first year so I could be fairly specific in showing profit potential."

By working with a feed mill willing to provide hogs and feed for a share of the earnings, Daryl requested monies for a building facility and equipment. The bank agreed to a short term loan of $85,000, with semi-annual (twice a year) payments of $7,500. That amount, based on building estimates gathered by Daryl, would meet all start-up costs. The building and feeding equipment were soon installed, and Daryl was a hog farmer.

"The barn holds 640 pigs," shares Daryl, "and we try to finish them in 110 days. I've gotten out of the contract business, so now I buy the pigs at 40 to 50 pounds from a local nursery. I've been selling the finished hogs when they hit around 230 pounds."

Daryl currently sells to a local packer who sends payment shortly after pickup. After receiving the packer's check, Daryl pays production costs and stashes money away to meet loan payments.

"I don't let any debts ride over 90 days," says the careful manager. "One of the toughest things in farming is managing your debt load. A good credit rating is very important. You never know when a loan will be necessary for meeting operating or expansion costs."

Expansion is ahead for Daryl. His career objective includes farming 500 acres and 1,800 market hogs annually in a farrow-to-finish operation. A feed mill and a nursery/farrowing facility are both in the plan.

"I know of no other individual," reports David Woodling, Mifflinburg FFA advisor, "who spends as much time analyzing records and plans for future expansion in the swine and crop business as Daryl. He has shown much enthusiasm for agricultural production enterprises. Daryl's goal was always for peak efficiency."

Endowed with a strong sense of personal and professional direction, Daryl Beiler is one of few who can gaze up the road and see what's coming. And he's pleased that the future holds a place for him in farming.

Trip Reveals Unique Aspects

DARYL Beiler is one of two FFA members featured in this issue who earned the opportunity to participate in FFA's Agricultural Travel Seminar to Europe. Bart Davis, featured on page 38, joined Daryl and the other 20 national proficiency award winners on the seminar's third offering.

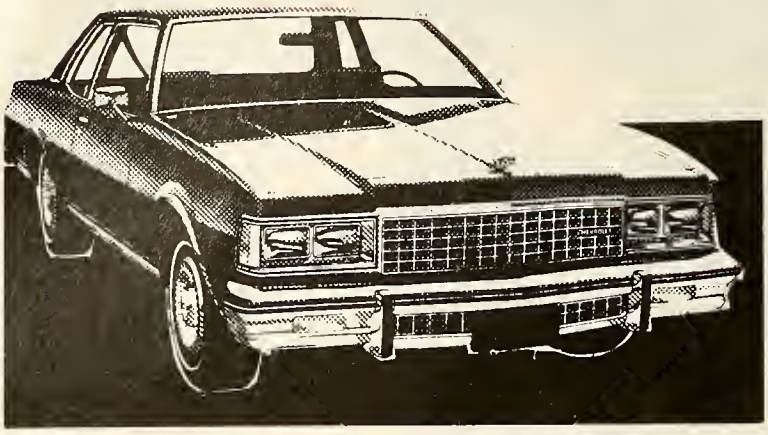
The seminar, an expense-paid trip for each proficiency award winner, is funded jointly by all sponsors in FFA's 22 proficiency award areas. The proficiency award program is considered most important in providing incentive for FFA members to develop and maintain outstanding FFA projects. Over the years, FFA's finest in agricultural production, agribusiness and related areas have surfaced through the proficiency program.

For 17 days beginning March 6, the seminar participants toured France, England, Holland, West Germany and Luxembourg visiting farms, agribusinesses, agricultural shows and tourist sights. The seminar is designed to give each participant a different perspective regarding his or her proficiency area. Since the participants are unusually progressive and anxious to learn, introductions to foreign operations serve to further develop the participant's mastering of their particular proficiency.

After two days of intensive orientation in the nation's capital and the National FFA Center, the group flew from Washington to Frankfurt, West Germany. A beef farm in Grundhof, Luxembourg, afforded the FFA members their first glimpse of farming in Europe. From tiny Luxembourg, the seminar continued in Paris, site of a trip highlight: the Salon International de L'Agriculture Show. The agricultural show, considered the largest in the world, exhibits livestock, machinery and food products. Such exhibits give an all-encompassing look at European agriculture. The Future Farmers also visited a French beef fattening farm and nursery near Paris.

After crossing the English Channel on a ferry, the group toured London, the Royal Botanical Gardens, Windsor Castle and a cereal and grass seed experiment station. Two nights and a day were spent with host families from the English Young Farmers Club. Later, in Holland, the group witnessed land reclamation projects from the sea and spent time with Dutch host families.

Upon their return to Washington March 23, the participants hosted a breakfast for members of the U.S. Congress, sharing international experiences with the government leaders. Bob Seefeldt, FFA's program specialist in awards, coordinated the seminar. FFA Information Intern Becky Vining served as media supervisor for the trip.



Used Cars: How to Get The Most For Your Money

By Jackie Nichols

You may currently be making plans for one of the first major investments of your life—the purchase of a car. More likely than not in these days of inflation, the car you buy will be a used one.

But before you go out and buy the first shiny machine you see, check out some things.

"Generally, buyer beware," warns Don Donahugh, a complaint analyst with the Minnesota Attorney General's Office. He says people usually call his office with problems after they purchase a used car, when it's too late to do anything about it.

How can you avoid making a costly and even dangerous mistake? Your own state's attorney general's office is a good place to start. They should be able to provide you with information on laws affecting car sales in your state and the rights you have as a consumer. Also, checking out the make of car you're interested in beforehand can be helpful.

Your school or community librarian can help you discover publications such as "Consumer Reports," a non-profit magazine that reports on tests done on automobiles and other consumer goods. Past copies should give you information on the quality of car models produced in different years. Also the publication will supply you with vital information on mileage ratings by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) "Official Used Car" guides are helpful. They provide the average going prices for used car models in your region of the country.

If you're suspicious about possible safety defects or vehicle recalls involving a certain car model, the United States Department of Transportation will be happy to help you out. Call toll-free their Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393 with your questions.

Assuming you've now done some studying up on car models with good track records and the laws affecting car sales in your state, you're ready to begin your search.

"Have someone along with you who knows something about cars," says Gerry Becker, a specialist with the Center for Consumer Affairs based at the University of Wisconsin-Extension Division in Milwaukee.

As the two of you start to look at cars, there are many things to watch for:

-Check the mileage. A newer car with high mileage may be no bargain.

-Check to see if the car has been repainted. If so, that may tell you the car has been in an accident or has a rust problem.

-Check the interior upholstery. If it's too worn in relation to the age of the car it may hint that the car has not been well taken care of.

-Check the tires to see how worn they are. If worn unevenly the car could be out of line. If you would need to replace all four, that could mean another $200.00 or more.

-Check the horn, lights, radio, heater, air conditioner and other apparatus. If one or more are not opeating effectively, that should be reflected in a lower price.

If you find a car that meets your approval in these areas, take it out on a test drive. Travel on city streets and the highway. Does the car accelerate properly? Do the brakes squeak or operate smoothly?

Becker suggests you take the car to a garage and have a mechanic check it out. Ask if the engine is sound. Have him test the brakes, transmission, shocks, battery and the exhaust system. When he has the car up on the hoist he can probably tell if there has been body work peformed or if the frame has been damaged.

After the inspection ask the mechanic what his general opinion is of the car. Would he hesitate before buying a car like it?

Will you be better off buying from a dealer or a private party? Becker says you may be safer going through a dealer unless you know the private party personally. He adds that the dealer will treat you better if it's your family's second or third car purchase from them. They want to keep you as a customer.

What if you don't know a dealer in town?

"Check with your friends. Chances are somebody you know has dealt with that car dealer before," says Becker. He also recommends checking the dealer out with the Better Business Bureau in your state.

"Most purchase contracts are 'as is,' releasing the dealer of responsibility," warns Donahugh. "Because of that, buyers need to be very careful."

Becker says that his organization has found that people don't understand that they have to keep paying a car loan off, even if the car turns out to be a lemon.

Also be aware that there is usually no recision period. There is no way to get out of the contract within a 72-hour period because you changed your mind for example.

Some dealers will provide a limited warranty. Check the warranty carefully and find out just who will fix what.

If the car you really want is owned by a private party, Donahugh suggests you come up with your own written contract. For instance if the private party says he put in plugs a month ago, have him put it in writing. Also, get a history of all repairs and ask for a signed copy of all work orders. If you have such facts in writing there is a change of legal recourse if something proves false through small claims or conciliation court.

No matter who you decide to buy from, ask for an odometer disclosure statement. That will provide you with the true mileage for the car.

Remember, most private parties and car salesmen will be honest and helpful in their dealings with you. You will, though, feel more secure about your investment if you don't make a haphazard decision.

To help you make a *safe* decision the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has put out a free booklet, "Common Sense in Buying a Safe Used Car." If you'd like a copy, write National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Public Affairs Office, Room 5232, 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

And remember: After you've decided to buy and can make the payments you have other responsibilities to yourself and others around you. Be properly insured. Be legally licensed (and know the rules of the road). Operate the car safely. Operate the car with energy efficiency in mind.

Go ahead. Give your "new" car a wash and wax job and let everybody have a look at your new investment.

Put Exxon's fuel savers in engines that must go the distance.

Our tough XD-3™ and XD-3 EXTRA™ oils for diesel and gasoline engines save fuel by reducing friction.

These are Exxon's heavy-duty oils that protect your farm engines with the same fuel-saving technology we pioneered and proved in gasoline-saving Uniflo Motor Oil.

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This was proved in diesel truck tests pitting XD-3 and XD-3 EXTRA against two leading competitive SAE 30 oils and a leading 15W-40 multi-grade—all petroleum-based oils.

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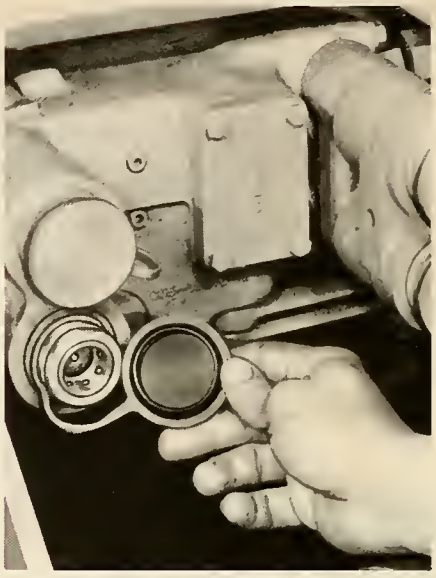
Similar results were obtained in a controlled on-highway test of XD-3 15W-40 compared to a competitive 15W-40 engine oil in three gasoline powered one-half ton Ford pickup trucks.

Ask yourself how much 3% would save on your annual fuel bill. Then call your Exxon Farm Distributor. (Note—only multi-grade available in 5-quart jugs shown above.) Exxon Company, U.S.A.

EXXON

Hydraulics: A Tractor's Lifeblood



Photos Courtesy of JI Case

Always place protective caps over the hydraulic connections not being used.

GOLIATH was felled by a single smooth stone. It doesn't even take that much to stop your tractor's hydraulic system. A piece of dirt or a small amount of water can cripple the system.

Hydraulics give your machinery the muscle you need to do your farm work. But Robert Snopko, product performance manager of JI Case Company, says the system's strength is also the source of its weakness.

Any hydraulic system moves a special oil under pressure through various components with very close tolerances. The smallest particle of dirt, if it gets inside the system's close-fitting parts, acts like an abrasive: scoring cylinder walls, destroying seals and rapidly wearing the components.

Hydraulic fluid has special properties to withstand the high temperature and pressure in the system. Fluid which has become contaminated with water could cause the system to fail.

Good hydraulic maintenance begins when you purchase the tractor. Your dealer will go over the system with you, pointing out special features. He can explain what you as an owner must do to properly care for the system. Next, read your owner's manual thoroughly. Periodically, go back and review the manual to make sure you haven't forgotten any important steps.

In addition to whatever specific recommendations the maker of your tractor outlines, good hydraulic maintenance includes:

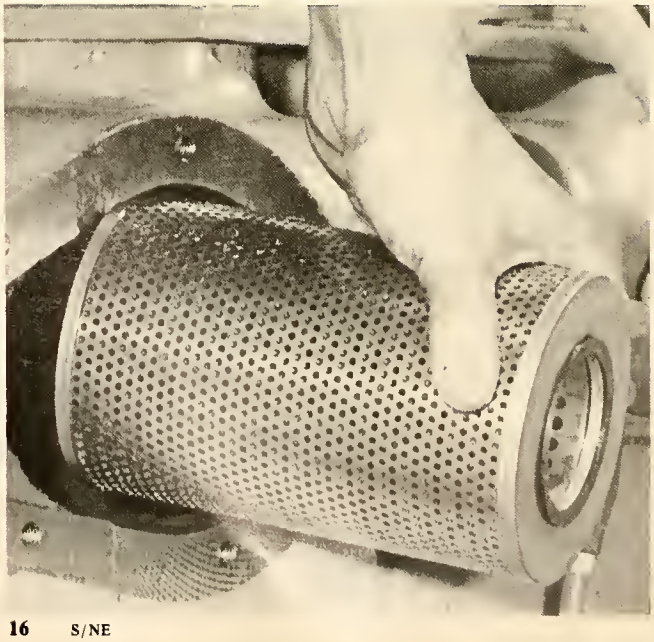
1. *Frequent visual inspections of the system.* Look for any signs of leaks, worn or damaged hoses or lines. Leaks on dirty tractors are hard to see so clean your tractor regularly. Remember, any leak is too much leak and no leak ever fixed itself.
2. *Check the fluid itself frequently.* A quick inspection tells a lot about your hydraulic system. A frequently low system probably has a leak. If the fluid appears milky, water has entered the system. Drain and flush the system according to the directions in the owner's manual, and replace with fresh fluid.

Smell the oil. A burnt odor indicates the fluid has overheated. The usual cause of overheating is trying to do work which exceeds the limits of the system. A dirty hydraulic oil cooler or a damaged line may also cause overheating. Any implement or attachment mounted on your tractor must not block the flow of air around the cooler.

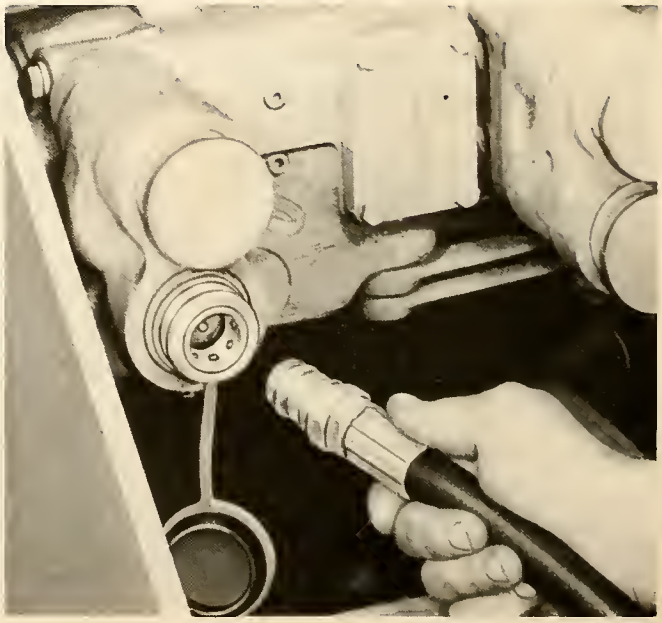
3. *Cap all unused connections securely.* An uncovered hydraulic connection collects dirt. When the component is hooked up, the dirt is forced into the system. If a connection is dirty, use only a lint-free cloth and a small amount of hydraulic oil, if necessary. One piece of lint from a cotton rag is all that is needed to damage a hydraulic valve or other component.
4. *Use only tightly-sealed hydraulic oil.* Never use fluid which has been exposed to air. Airborne dirt and moisture can quickly contaminate oil in an open container.
5. *Observe the action of hydraulic-powered implements.* If movement is slow or jerky, something is wrong with the hydraulic system. Stop working until you have determined and corrected the problem.

Your tractor, with its hydraulic system, provides a great deal of power and control. Do your part to maintain the system and that power will be at your fingertips, helping you get your work done quickly and easily.

For maximum protection, inspect and replace hydraulic filters according to manufacturer's recommendations.



Both parts of the coupling should be properly cleaned before attaching any equipment to a hydraulic cylinder.



Engineers of Tomorrow

FFA members nationwide hold reputations as award-winning inventors.

By Pam Carr

Vo-ag students across the country were invited to submit their individual ideas using their ability and creativity in designing projects to aid in different facets of a farming operation.

Conducted by Doane Agricultural Service, Inc., one of America's leading agricultural advisory firms, the program was called "Projects for the Farm Shop." According to Tom Corey, a Doane editor in charge of the activity, the idea evolved from other successful projects that utilize high school students' talents, such as the ***Foxfire*** *books. Judges Tom Locke, Neil Clemmons and Charles Cape, all of the Doane organization are well versed in practical agriculture and experienced in mechanical aspects of farming. Here are the top placings and a look at their inventive projects:*

Don and Kevin Hagedorn and Tom Bruckerhoff, senior FFA members of the Hermann, Missouri, FFA Chapter, shared a first prize of $250 for their innovative, self-designed three-point scraper blade. It's easy to tell much work and thought went into the project's development.

According to Tom, past chapter president, the heavy-duty blade maintains stability and structural strength when used behind tractors pushing 80 horsepower or more. Tom says, "The ⅝-inch thick blade was designed with an 8-foot length to induce more cutting action and greater versatility than models which could be bought from a dealer. With a blade weighing 1,395 pounds, you don't have to worry about the scraping ability or the lack of downward pull."

Some of the major design changes over conventional blades included altering the turntable apparatus, blade size, supports, stand mechanism, and "beefing up" the three-point hitch. The total cost for materials was $310.28. A similar blade on the market would cost considerably more.

Tom, Don and Kevin constructed their blade in the advanced agricultural construction class offered in the Gasconade R1 High School's vocational agriculture program. All three students were born and raised in Rhineland, Missouri, and come from diversified farming backgrounds.

The three haven't stopped applying their vo-ag acquired knowledge of farm mechanics. Tom is currently working on the family farm, where he sees his mechanical experience as being of great value in day-to-day maintenance operations.

Don is working at a metal fabrication plant, and Kevin continues part-time employment at Rhineland Grain Company through the vocational agricultural placement program.

Tim Koch of LeRoy, Minnesota, and Robin Gaynor of Brookville, Indiana, tied for second place (each receiving $100) with their mechanical feats. Tim designed a heavy-duty engine stand, and Robin engineered a garden tractor snow blade.

Tim, a LeRoy Ostrander FFA member, built his engine stand with features such as a 360 degree engine rotation head, capable of handling all car engines and medium truck engines weighing up to 2,500 pounds. Tim says the engine stand will also attach to a wide variety of engine bolt patterns.

Robin's 42-inch wide blade can be angled three different directions with the pull of a pin. As Robin notes, "It's main use is plowing snow, but I've found that it works well in scraping barn floors and pushing dirt and gravel. Also, its simple design makes it easier to make than most blades." Robin says the blade can easily be adapted to fit any tractor model.

Tim and Robin also plan to apply their previous training in agriculture to careers. Tim, a recent high school graduate, plans to work with his parents on family-owned farms and an agricultural chemical business. Robin, a senior and president of the East Central High School FFA Chapter, plans to attend Purdue University majoring in agricultural engineering.

Sharing third place with Randy Thomas of Parkway, Ohio, FFA were Jeff Davis and Brian Barnett, president and vice president, respectively, of the Lake Crystal, Minnesota, FFA Chapter.

Jeff and Brian's winning entry was a swinging mailbox support—a very handy gadget to have, particularly in snowy Minnesota where snowplows have been known to damage more than just a few mailboxes.

The swinging mailbox support design is relatively simple, easy to build and inex-

(Continued on Page 18)

(From left) Tom Bruckerhoff, along with brothers Don and Kevin Hagedorn, united farm mechanics skills to produce the innovative blade shown below.

Engineers

(Continued from Page 17)

pensive. Materials consist of 1½-inch and 1-inch pipe, 1-inch angle iron, 1-inch flat stock, pine board and bolts. The construction process is also simple. Pipe is cut and angled so that, when welded together, sections pivot, allowing the mailbox to swing out of the way when bumped, then return to normal position. And, the cost for materials is less than $5.

Jeff is currently attending Waseca Technical College, studying agriculture. Brian is attending Mankato State University where he's majoring in business accounting.

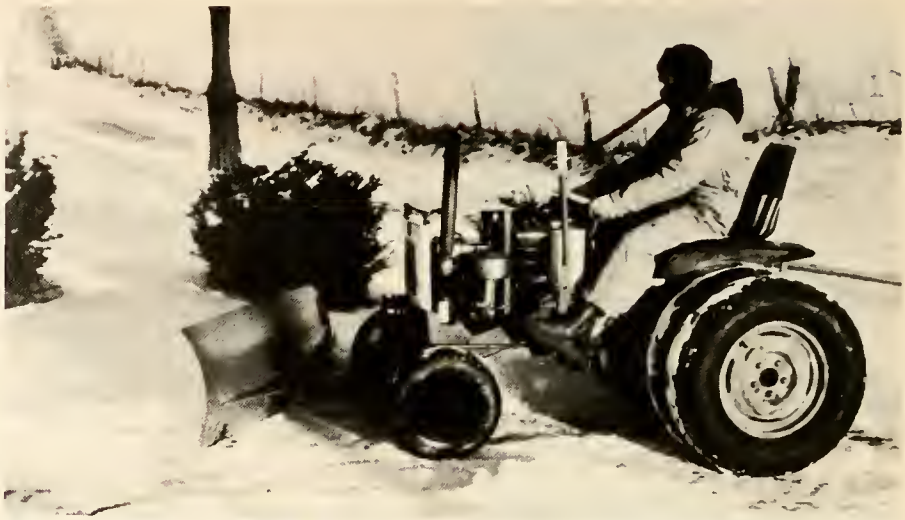
Randy's entry was a 30-ton capacity hydraulic shop press, designed for automotive, industrial and general shop work. The press straightens, bends, presses, and removes and installs gears, axle bearings, bushings, universal joints, wrist pins, pulleys and drive shaft bearings.

Randy owns 80 acres and farms with his parents and one of his three older brothers. He operated a 12-sow farrow-to-finish vo-ag occupational experience project and built a 14-foot livestock trailer in shop class this past year. After graduation, Randy plans to obtain a welding job to supplement his farm income.

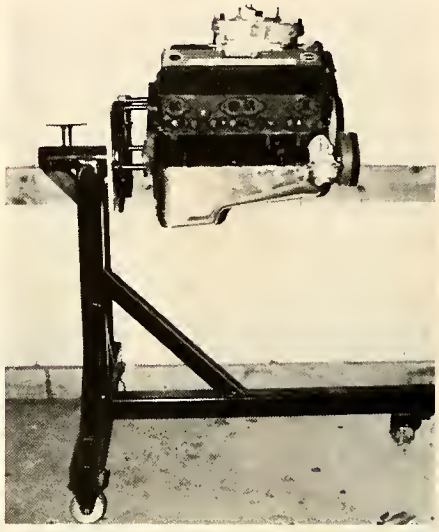
The fourth place winner in the "Projects" portion of the contest was freshman Brad Sandaw. A part-time hog farmer, Brad designed a hog-mobile in the Touchet High School vo-ag class in Touchet, Washington.

According to Brad, the hog-mobile transports hogs from one area to another without the problem of a runaway hog. As Brad explains, "The hog is placed into the hog-mobile by lifting the end of the cart and allowing the hog to walk inside. Once inside, the cart is lowered and, by grasping the handles and slightly lifting one end of the cart, the hog is slowly moved from place to place."

Tom Corey of Doane says the "Farm Projects" contest was based on the belief that the ideas and ingenuity of the American farmer are key ingredients to success. "Whether it's a solution to a problem, a simpler way, a handy gadget or a way to build something cheaper or better, ideas and solutions typify farmers' daily activity. These students have certainly demonstrated the ability to find solutions, in a very practical manner, to some of the everyday problems that face farmers."



Robin Gaynor's versatile snow blade adapts to fit several tractor models.



Tom Koch's engine stand supports and revolves engines weighing over a ton.

Jeff Davis (left) and Brian Barnett designed this handy swinging mailbox.

Two separate entries from the Lynnville-Sully, FFA Chapter in Sully, Iowa, won prizes under the "Gadgets & Hints" category of the "Farm Projects" contest.

One prize winner, Mark DeCook, designed a flood-proof creek fence. As Mark explains, "When we got tired of continuously repairing our creek fence after floods, we decided it was time to do something different. We ripped out the old fence and got two 55-gallon drums. We tied woven wire from the fence across the top to the barrels in the bottom of the creekbed. The cows see that it is closed off and don't push against it, so no major weighting is needed. When a big rain comes and floods the creek, the barrels act as floats and lift the fence out of the way as it rides on top of the water. When the water goes down, the barrels pull the fence back down. Some adjustments of the fence after a flood may be needed, but not as much as building a new fence."

Loran VanWyk, also from Lynnville-Sully High School, won with his entry: a child-proof gunrack. Outlining the construction process, Loran says, "Build it so that one side has holes cut in it for the barrel and build the other side (to hold the gun stocks) as usual—except run an oak strip from the top over the outside of the grooves for the stocks, and down to the bottom. Attach a lock, making the only access to the guns by removing the strip of wood."

Mark and Loran's knack for creating gadgetry will help in their careers. Mark plans to continue in partnership with his brother on a crop and hog farming operation, plus run his own leatherworks business.

Loran attends Lincoln Technical School in Des Moines where he is studying to be a mechanic.

The final prize in the "Farm Projects" contest was awarded jointly to Chamberlain, South Dakota, FFA members Brian Ketelhut and Steve Nelson for their Jiffy Sawhorse entry. Brian and Steve prove that a sturdy workable sawhorse can be constructed in less than 15 minutes. Not much investment required either—materials include assorted pieces of lumber and a box of 8d common nails.

Brian is past president of the Chamberlain Chapter. He was selected to serve as this year's state president and is also attending South Dakota State University (SDSU).

Steve is chapter vice president, and also plans to attend SDSU.

Jack-of-all-terrains.

And master of all. Town or toolies, it's all the same to our new TS dual-purpose bikes. All four (TS-100, 125, 185, 250) come with street-legal lighting. Well-padded seats. And a quiet, smooth and gas-stingy Power Reed™ engine. So they're ideal for weekday commuting. And each is equipped with long-travel suspension (including a rugged box-type swing arm), semi-knobby tires and motocross-styled pegs and grips. So they're ideal for weekend trail riding. No matter where you take them, no need to worry about them. Their PEI ignition means no points to fiddle with. And their automatic "CCI" oil injection system means no fussing with gas/oil mixtures. In short, about all you have to do with these low-priced bikes is ride 'em. Anywhere.

Suzuki 1981 The Performer.®

...tion. Ride with care. Always wear a helmet and protective apparel. Ride only where authorized and respect the environment.

Ag Center

(Continued from Page 10)

place a $525,000 bond issue before the voters.

Future Farmers played a key role in the campaign seeking bond issue approval. They went door to door in Winters and the surrounding farms to explain the proposal. They distributed leaflets and accompanied adults to organization and public meetings to describe the need for an agricultural center.

The message had its effect. Voters favored the bonds by a 3 to 1 margin in April of 1977. It ws one of the few school bond issues approved in California within recent years.

The school district purchased a ten-acre abandoned apricot orchard as the building site. Future Farmers put their muscles to work, digging up tree roots, piling them for burning and clearing the site for construction.

Then inflation became a crippling factor. The lowest construction bid was $555,000. With less than $500,000 available for building purposes, the committee slashed features they believed could be handled later. Eliminated were shop equipment, bleachers for the livestock show arena, a paved parking lot, gutters for the roof, classroom furniture, a mini-kitchen, livestock pen building materials and paving the storage yard. This reduced costs to $470,000.

The entire community rallied its resources to meet the challenge. Farmers loaned and contributed equipment. They joined other volunteers to rip up the soil and level the area. Organizations and individuals donated money and labor to replace the deleted items.

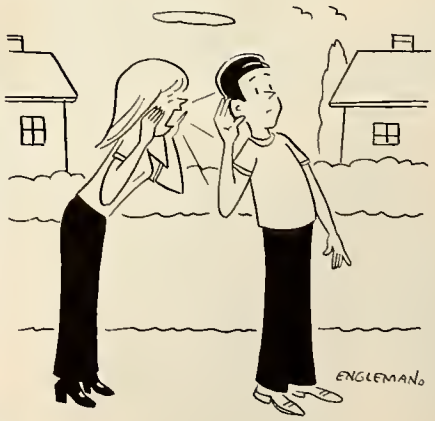
The mini-kitchen is now installed. Darkening drapes are in place to permit showing movies. Donated gravel provided the parking lot base. Donations of pipe arrived for use in the barn.

Classes opened in the new building in the fall of 1979 with an enrollment exceeding 100 boys and girls out of a school enrollment of approximately 350. Students are bussed back and forth from the high school campus in Winters to the center.

Mr. Aguiar sees the center as belonging to the community. He explains a divider in the classrooms can be moved to provide a good-sized meeting room for organizations and public affairs.

The Winters job was Mr. Aguiar's first. He stepped onto the high school campus in July, 1956, just after graduating from California State Polytechnic, San Luis Obispo, and began an ag teaching career producing an enviable record. Phil Benson of Winters was last year's national FFA secretary. The chapter also produced a national vice president, two California state FFA presidents and two state reporters.

In 1977, Advisor Aguiar received the Honorary American Farmer degree. "FFA is used as a motivator," he asserts. "It is the greatest device I know in teaching. It gives youth communication skills, confidence, teaches them citizenship, leadership and skills in self sufficiency. There is something for everybody in FFA."



"I said I hear you got a new stereo!"

Salvaged from a messy pile, these pieces seemed to all "fit."

With the last parts added, the old Fordson stood again.

A Giant Jigsaw Puzzle

One school morning, the agricultural mechanics class at Delaware City-County Joint Vocational School in Ohio, discovered a pile of nuts, bolts and what appeared to be some parts for a tractor. The challenge was there to assemble the pieces of the 1925 English Fordson tractor.

The job started by laying the parts out to find that was missing. Clean up of the tractor parts took place while the missing parts were hunted, made by the school machine shop and adapted from current models of tractors.

Assembly of the transmission and differential took place with ease. The transmission is a three-speed forward equipped with a friction brake to stop the gears from spinning when depressing the clutch pedal. There are no additional brakes since the final drive is a worn gear. (The tractor cannot be pulled to start.)

The engine was bolted to the rear housing. There is a wet clutch driven by the flywheel. The flywheel acts as an oil pump which supplies oil to the babbit main bearings by centrifugal force and gravity. The connecting rods are lubricated while the engine is running by the dipper splash system (much like many small engines). Being in good shape, only cleaning took place on the crankshaft and the babbit bearings. By cleaning one of the old standard size rings, a part number was discovered and was found still to be a good part number to order.

With all the internal parts in place, the tractor was set up on its wheels. The finishing work of the radiator, magneto, carburetor, fuel tank and painting has made the tractor complete and identifiable. *(Eldon Wigton, Advisor)*

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Patchwork For Wildlife

This ambitious project defends our nation's natural gifts.

APPROXIMATELY 40 members of the Winchester, Virginia, FFA participate in a Wildlife Food Patch contest each year. The food patch contest is an annual chapter project sponsored by the Izaak Walton League, a conservation organization for the purpose of defending our nation's soil, woods, waters, air and wildlife.

In order for a member to receive the seed he or she must fill out an application. The application consists of questions concerning such things as: Describe your location where you intend to plant. What is your purpose of planting? What are other ways of promoting wildlife in your area? The applications are then reviewed by our wildlife and forestry committee consisting of chapter members to determine who receives the wildlife seed.

If a student qualifies he/she will receive a five-pound mixture of seed containing buckwheat, soybean, sorghum and several varieties of millets. Each five-pound mixture will plant one-eighth of an acre. The student must plant the seed no later than the month of June to ensure that the growing plants will reach the correct stage of maturity when the patches are judged in the fall.

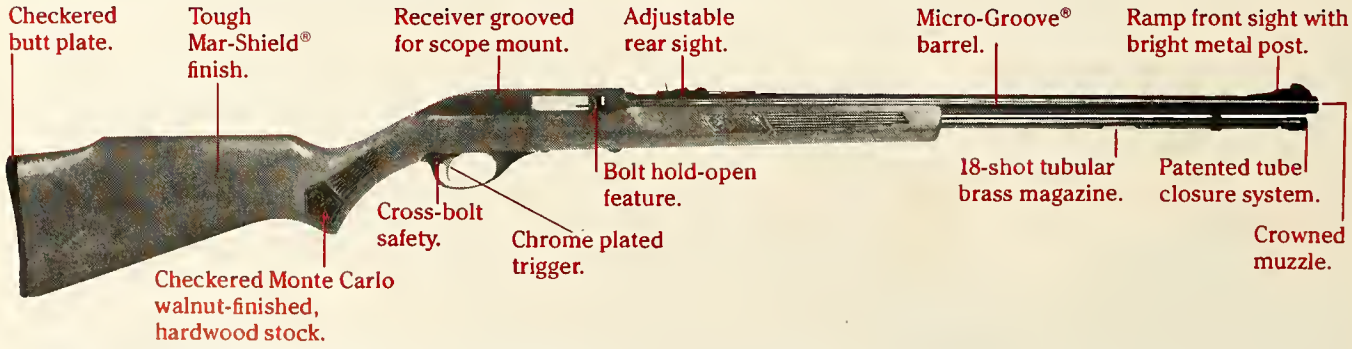
Under supervision of the agricultural teacher, classroom instruction as well as home visits are conducted to ensure the quality and success of the patches. This is an excellent project that ties in perfectly with the wildlife management unit that is taught to the students. It helps to promote a better understanding as well as an appreciation for wildlife. Not only is wildlife management covered but several areas of plant science are also included such as how to prepare the seed bed for planting and proper fertilizer application as well as planting procedures to promote good plant growth. Also each member is required to keep accurate records on their patch in their SOEP record books.

Several factors are considered to determine an ideal location for a wildlife patch. An area must be selected where there is little or no distraction for the wildlife. (Example—near a busy roadway or a congested area would be a poor site.) Ideal soil is needed that would provide the needed requirements to promote good plant growth. Sometimes a soil sample is taken to ensure this. The location should be near a wooded area or near some undergrowth that provides cover for the wildlife to retreat if frightened. And a water source such as a lake, pond or stream must be located nearby. All of these factors

(Continued on page 29)

"You're taxes went up, 'cause you're using non-polluted air!"

The world's best selling 22 autoloader. It could sell for a lot more. But it doesn't.



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Call Him a "Natural"

Kelly's quick grasp of farm machinery maintenance helps keep the Gangestad farm running and rolling.

By Lon Tonneson

WHEN the sun comes up over the prairie in southwest Minnesota, 17-year-old Kelly Gangestad had better be around the 1,000-acre Gangestad farm. The Luverne, Minnesota, high school senior would be sorely missed when work swings into gear.

Kelly, a three-year member of the Luverne FFA, keeps things running and rolling in the Gangestad farming operation and family trucking business. He is a master mechanic, according to his father, Emmett, and an "outstanding ag mechanics student," according to FFA Advisor Paul Schubeck. Kelly is a big help to anyone with equipment amiss on farms where blue-stemmed prairie grass built a soil that supports bin busting harvests of oats, corn, soybeans and wheat.

"I don't know how I started in it," Kelly says, reflecting on an already seasoned background in farm mechanics. "I was always interested in what made things run and how to get broken things running again."

Like most natural mechanics, Kelly began his apprenticeship early. At the age of five, he was the "grease monkey" on his father's farm. "I guess I could squeeze in and out of places better than anybody else because I was the smallest," he says.

Gradually, the aspiring mechanic exchanged the grease gun for tools. Guided by his brother who is 15 years older, Kelly learned his way around and inside the family's farm and trucking machinery. When he started vocational agriculture classes and FFA, though, he hit his stride. In the last few years, he has amassed an impressive list of projects.

Last year, for example, Kelly overhauled a tractor, installed a Caterpillar engine in a GMC Astro truck, overhauled a 1964 pickup, repaired an 1160 Case combine, put together a sunflower head on a combine, reworked augers, erected grain storage bins, completed body work on an Astro cab and acted as the chief mechanic for the family's operation.

"There are some days when we don't know what we would do without Kelly," his father, Emmett, says. Kelly's work also makes a big difference in the balance sheet at year's end. "I couldn't afford to hire all the work done that he does," says Emmett. "It would cost me $21 an hour in town."

Advisor Schubeck says more and more young farmers find that experience in ag mechanics will not only be worth their time in the future, but it will also be worth their money.

"I think anyone who is going into any kind of farming operation today needs a background in ag mechanics," he says. "The new machinery is getting very complicated." Schubeck recommends that serious mechanics students pursue post-secondary degrees, vouching that further education "pays off in the long run."

Taking such advice to heart, Kelly plans to attend the Dunwoode Technical Institute in Minneapolis when he graduates. Though the training he receives there in mechanics will open doors to highly profitable mechanical repair and design careers, Kelly plans to return to the farm.

As Kelly puts it, "You wouldn't be your own boss off the farm." Life on the farm, even for a teenager, isn't exactly easy. The workday starts before 7 a.m. and, for many farmers around the country, doesn't end before 10 in the evening.

Kelly learns as his FFA Advisor, Paul Schubeck, "trouble shoots" an engine.

Maintenance of the family's trucks presents tough mechanical problems.

With devotion to farming high on his list, Kelly hardly finds time to fit in other activities on his crowded schedule. Nonetheless, he remains dedicated to wrestling, band and basketball at the nearby high school. "If you are not busy, then I guess you get into trouble," he supposes.

Because of the family farm experience, Emmett Gangestad has found a valuable exchange going on between his sons. "A lot of kids don't know what their fathers do," he shares. "In town, the fathers go off to some job and they can't take their kids there to help. Out here, sons and daughters can't help but get involved in what their parents are doing."

Kelly says that after graduation from Luverne High he would like to go out on the road—drive his father's trucks that haul feed and grain throughout the Midwest and just "see some of the country." Emmett predicts, though, that his son with a talent for making broken things run again would soon tire of the road. Then, says Emmett, Kelly would come back to his "home away from home"—the machine shop.

"This place needs someone around full time just to clean it up," Kelly says. But there is hardly time for that. When the sun shines, the Gangestads stay in the fields. When it rains, the equipment must be worked on. The days just keep rolling by.

As everywhere, farm mechanics work is never-ending. But Advisor Schubeck says Kelly will soon be joined in his tasks of keeping agriculture rolling. "We've got several young students coming up who are going to be as good as Kelly, if not better," Schubeck says. In a country where the sun rises and sets on the success of farming operations, that is good news.

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New From Agribusiness

Things to write for:

Want a free copy of the 1981 Mossberg catalog? It features the Model 500 slide-action shotguns, a variety of bolt-action and semi-automatic 22's and bolt-action shotguns. For a free copy of the catalog, write Mossberg. To receive the catalog and a patch, enclose $1. Write O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc., Department NFF, 7 Grasso Avenue, North Haven, Connecticut 06473.

BFGoodrich says their Powersaver Radial HT rear farm tire can cut tillage costs. They will send you a brochure telling you how if you will write to them and request their radial tire brochure. Write to: the BFGoodrich Tire Group, 500 South Main Street, Department 0637, Building 24-D, Akron, Ohio 44318.

A new 250 h.p. heavy-duty forage harvester from Sperry New Holland has chopping capacity for over 100 tons of corn per hour. The new model 1900 is self-propelled with hydrostatic drive. Heads include 3- and 4-row wide and narrow corn heads, a 14-foot direct-cut head and two windrow pickups.

A new line of Weatherguard cabs is now available from Massey-Ferguson. These Weatherguards are built to fit MF 205, MF 210 and MF 220 two- and four-wheel drive tractors.

EPA Clears Sevin

After four years of extensive study the Environmental Protection Agency has issued a decision which in effect clears the registration of Sevin carbaryl insecticide and all of the product's current uses.

One of the most widely-used insecticides in the world, Sevin was initially registered for pesticidal use in 1959. Today the product is registered by the EPA for control of over 545 different pests on over 100 uses, including home and garden, fruit and forage, forest and rangeland, field and vegetable crops. It is also registered and used for pest control on dogs, cats, chickens, game birds and louse control on humans.

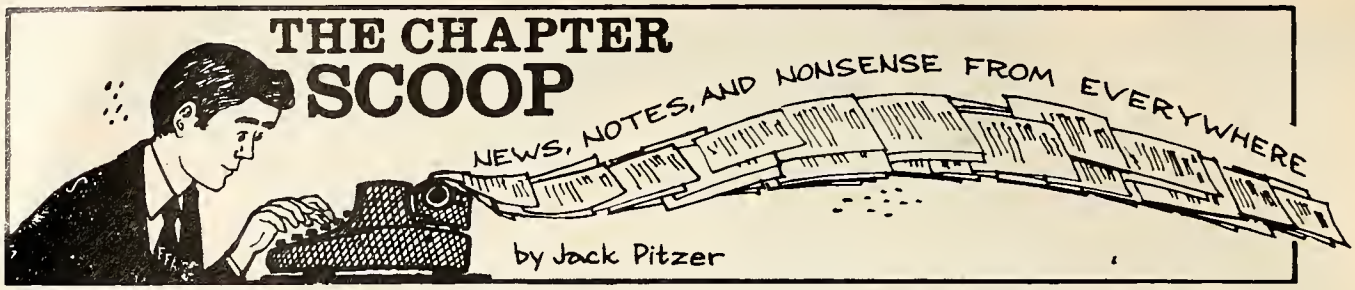
The active ingredient, Sevin carbaryl insecticide, is manufactured by Union Carbide and, according to the company, is formulated by nearly 300 U.S. firms for use in over 1,500 federally registered products.

EPA's decision was made last winter and was published in the *Federal Register* of December 12, 1980. Union Carbide's President Robert Oldgord called the decision a "breakthrough for users."

International Harvester has announced the production of this rotary combine to help increase the productivity of small farm operations. At 112 h.p., model 1421 is the smallest Axial-Flow rotary combine ever produced by the company. It is expected to increase grain harvesting productivity up to 25 percent.

For checking fences, cruising down roads or searching for a stray calf, Suzuki offers the TS-185X. It features 183cc Power Reed engine, gets over 50 miles per gallon.

"Blue Power Special" tractors with four-cylinder diesel engines are offered by Ford Tractor in North America. They include models 7600-7700, 6600-6700 and 5600.



Guest speaker at *Montgomery County,* OH, Joint Vocational School chapter meeting, Mr. Jim Eckhart, demonstrated chain saw safety. Then did a sculpture with his chain saw of an American eagle perched on a log.

N-N-N

McCullough FFA at The Woodlands, TX, invites other faculty members to judge public speaking contests. It acquaints them with FFA and vo-ag.

N-N-N

Owen Jones, president of *Fairview,* TN, Chapter, proudly reports 100% membership. How is your chapter doing? Lots of free hats are being mailed from the National Center to chapters who are 100% PLUS.

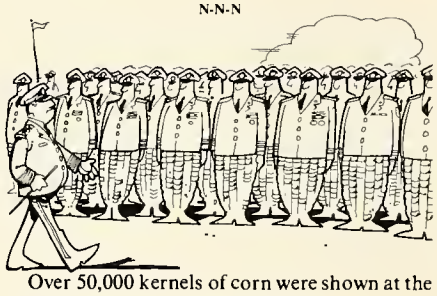
N-N-N

A much needed storage shed for *Pavilion,* NY, school was built by FFA there.

N-N-N

Advisors are worth a lot to the success of any chapter. And sometimes also as a fund raiser. Advisor **Maune** was "sold" for $685 at *Verden,* OK, slave sale.

N-N-N



Over 50,000 kernels of corn were shown at the *Springfield,* MN, FFA crop show.

N-N-N

Girls in *Elgin,* OR, Chapter made a queen-sized quilt to be raffled off to raise money for the chapter.

N-N-N

Seed salesmen in sales campaign of *Woodsville,* NH, FFA are divided up based on the four towns members live in—Bath, Haverhill, North Haverhill and Woodsville. Top salesmen get dinner out.

N-N-N

Reporter **Andrew Eck** reported to the *Twin Valley,* OH, Chapter that he had six articles in the newspaper since their last meeting.

N-N-N

Teams of *Bloomfield,* IA, members hit the road to see which one could earn the most points for the chapter in a pest hunt with neighboring *Fairfield* Chapter.

N-N-N

Enola, AR, held two different farm safety information nights in order to increase safety awareness in their community.

N-N-N

Jeff Taylor, president, **Terry Allen,** secretary and **Kevin Kirby,** reporter of *Granite,* OK, FFA attended a special supper at the senior citizens center and presented that center a new food cooker.

N-N-N

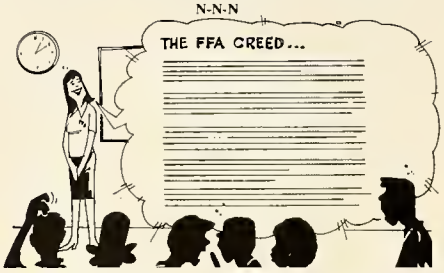
FFA members themselves will sell 40 varieties of bedding plants at *Zillah,* WA, Alumni flea market. All money goes toward an FFA scholarship—so FFA'ers are glad to help.

FFA's float won $50 cash award in *Gretna,* VA, Christmas parade. Float was built by junior high members.

N-N-N

A member of *Owen Valley,* IN, FFA developed a coloring book to use with the chapter's Food For America program.

N-N-N



All 14 Greenhands in *Pinedale,* WY, took part in the "speed creed" contest as part of initiation. **Shari Lopez** did it in 33 seconds.

N-N-N

Two chapters reported successes for their first-time parliamentary procedure teams—*Denham Springs,* LA, and *District 214,* IL.

N-N-N

As part of the *Martinsville,* IN, community's fall foliage festival, FFA members served as guides for the Farmers Day exhibit at the fairgrounds where area farmers set up livestock and machinery exhibits.

N-N-N

FFA and FHA-HERO in *Socorro,* NM, competed in the 13th annual pie baking contest. Pies are sold to raise money for chapters.

N-N-N

Lebanon Regional FFA in CT publishes a newsletter. In a recent issue Earnings & Savings Committee reported on popcorn sales plus plans for an Easter egg hunt.

N-N-N

Members of *Buhler,* KS, FFA have adopted grandparents at the Buhler Sunshine Home.

N-N-N

Also the *Buhler* Chapter newsletter has a coupon for a free soft drink at the FFA concession stand.

N-N-N

To reign over the annual King and Queen of Hearts Dance sponsored by *North Salinas,* CA, FFA, the candidate's club or class must sell the most raffle tickets. The dance is a long-time FFA event in their school.

N-N-N

During the winter holidays they sent unsold greenhouse plants from *Monument Mountain,* MA, Chapter to local nursing homes.

N-N-N

All Greenhands of *Toulon,* IL, Chapter participated in FFA organized hunter safety course. Then on Saturday following the course, a local trap shooting club demonstrated gun handling.

N-N-N

FFA in *Wallowa,* OR, is collecting used farm equipment, repairing it and contributing it to a Rotary Club project to get equipment for Mexican farms.

N-N-N

Douglas FFA in Dillard, OR, initiated 49 Greenhands. *Gilroy,* CA, added 54 Greenhands.

Houston, MO, held a "jump-rope-a-thon" to raise funds for the Heart Fund. **Craig Pounds** and **Jayne Watson** jumped rope for 1 hour nonstop.

N-N-N

Alumni affiliate of *Snohomish,* WA, FFA operated a booth at a Christmas bazaar. Money will help pay for FFA's new van.

N-N-N

Besides just selling smoke alarms, *Bertha-Hewitt,* MN, members install the alarms as well.

N-N-N

On *Cumberland Valley,* PA, FFA deer hunting trip **Rodney Potteiger** tagged one and **Ted Wilburn** got a 5-point.

N-N-N

Tipton, IA, FFA baled feed sacks for paper drive.

N-N-N

Our chapter purchased a propane gas grill. *Sibley,* IA.

N-N-N

Deer Lodge, MT, took orders for and cut 30 cords of wood to profit $900.

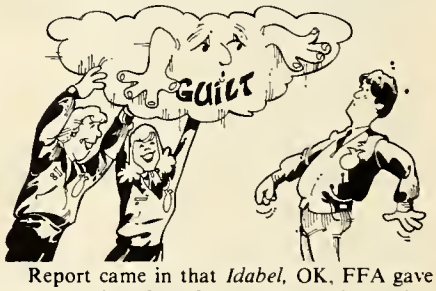
N-N-N

North Platte, NE, had a cowboy sweetheart dance.

N-N-N

River View, OH, FFA is building a hog washer for the Coshocton County Fair.

N-N-N



Report came in that *Idabel,* OK, FFA gave away a "guilt" after a fall chapter meeting. Think they meant "gilt," but it did attract a largest ever attendance at chapter meeting.

N-N-N

A crew of *Scappoose,* OR, members helped escort grade school "kids" and handicapped youngsters through the Kiddie Barnyard at Portland International Livestock Exposition.

N-N-N

Four days prior to their county fair, *Enola,* AR, hosted a showmanship contest with trophies for the winners.

N-N-N

The "Vial of Life" project (put important medical data for senior citizens in a plastic vial and store it in refrigerator so emergency crews can find it) was conducted by *Elgin* FFA, Marion, OH.

N-N-N

According to *Northwest Suburban,* IL, Chapter president, members wear "Ask ME about FFA" buttons to promote during FFA WEEK.

N-N-N

Last phase of Food For America presentation by *Big Walnut,* OH, is when FFA'ers make homemade ice cream for the children.

N-N-N

Someone in your chapter ought to send us the hot Scoop from your FFA. Maybe *you.*

Wildlife

(Continued from page 22)

provide the three requirements for the survival of wildlife—food, shelter and water. If these factors are taken into consideration when determining a site for a wildlife patch, it should be very successful.

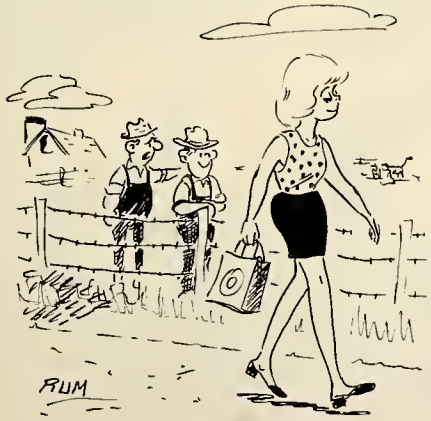
After the seed has been planted in the spring the patches are judged in the fall after reaching maturity. The patches are judged by a representative of the Virginia Game Commission and a representative of the conservation club.

The patches are rated according to the following categories: location, cover, water source, stage of maturity, plant variety—one point for each variety, evidence of use by the wildlife and amount of growth.

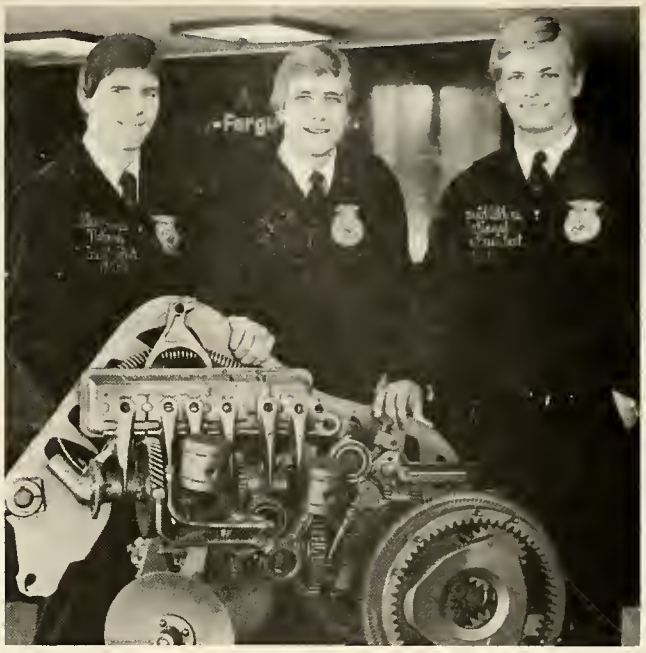
Each chapter winner as well as their parents are recognized at an annual banquet held by the Izaak Walton League and each is presented with cash prizes. Also for each chapter member that participates in the wildlife patch event, they receive a one year's subscription to the *Virginia Wildlife* magazine, compliments of the conservation club.

Not only does our FFA chapter take part in this event but the two other FFA chapters in our county are invited to participate as well by the conservation club. However, each chapter does not compete with the other. Separate awards are given to each chapter. By having each chapter participating there are approximately 125 patches planted each year.

We have found this is an excellent project for our chapter. It creates cooperation and improves public relations among other organizations within the community as well as promotes and preserves the wildlife in our area. This would be a great project for other FFA chapters. *(Joseph M. Salyer, Advisor)*



"The calves you're supposed to be watching have FOUR legs!"



(From left) Glenn Caves, Bob Quick and David Alders teamed up with their fellow officers and national staff members to visit FFA's many sponsors. At right, the officers pause from their heavy schedule to look over Massey Ferguson's unique "agrisculpture."

A Tour to Say "Thanks"

SINCE FFA's earliest years, companies and organizations in the industry of agriculture have donated resources of money, time and leadership to the furtherance of Future Farmer programs and activities. In each of the last two years, over one million dollars has been contributed to FFA through the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

The Sponsoring Committee, chaired this year by Dr. Owen Newlin of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., does much of the work to procure such funds. But FFA members, the designated benefactors of contributions, are charged to take advantage of opportunities such monetary backing provides. And this year's national officers, as in years past, are privileged to visit personally with many of FFA's supporters.

"The officers' visits," says Byron Rawls, national FFA advisor, "expose them to the working industry and give them a chance to personally thank the groups that support the FFA."

Since sponsors' headquarters are situated through the United States, officers cover thousands of miles on their annual tour. This year's two-week schedule, which ended early last month, placed officers and national staff representatives in 21 cities and 10 states. The tour of America followed an international experience program in France, Germany and Belgium where officers visited agribusinesses, organizations and government officials. Such visits assist officers in gaining a broadened knowledge of agriculture.

"The national officers will be before thousands of FFA members throughout the year," says Advisor Rawls. "Gaining an understanding of the industry from the leaders within it will enable them to pass along information to those members.

All six officers are briefed privately by Secretary of Agriculture John Block.

Haulin' Hay Through FFA

Members of this spirited chapter have a good, hot chance to earn and learn.

By Jeffrey Tennant

Photos by Author

(At top left) Few FFA chapters have their own incorporated farming enterprise. Hope FFA Farms is operated much like a commercial operation and stays just as busy, evidenced by the flurry of activity above. (Top right) One of the hay haulers takes a short breather along with a swig from the chapter's cool water bottle. Crew members watch over each other to guard against health hazards and cases of spring fever. (Below right) FFA Advisor Jack Watkins, in the cowboy hat, helps hay haulers transfer the trailer hitch from the chapter's tractor to a waiting truck.

THE day is clear down in Hope, Arkansas, with only a few fluffy clouds providing brief gifts of shade. Underneath the hot summer sun, 20 Hope FFA members and their four advisors busy themselves with raking, baling and loading one day's yield of dry, dusty hay.

They'll haul over 1,000 bales by day's end—arms will ache, throats will dry and legs will tire. But when that last box of twined hay slides into place in the chapter's 10,000-bale capacity barn, the typical aggravations of hay hauling will no longer nag. Most of this hard-working crew will then look forward to the next time out.

"As long as you're tough enough to stay with it," says Troy Buck, Hope's FFA advisor of 20 years, "you can haul hay with us. To my knowledge, anybody that's asked for work has gotten it. And we've never fired anybody—the main benefit of this operation is teaching kids to work. We try to instill an attitude of earning your keep."

Back in the summer of 1967, Advisor Buck envisioned the haying operation as a way to provide a service to area farmers, jobs for young men willing to work and hands-on learning experiences in forage crops for agriculture students. Since the chapter already had several money-making projects, including one of the oldest FFA rodeos in the Southwest, any profits from the operation would go to the crew and back into equipment. The chapter had no barn, and no implements, but Buck decided to see the plan through.

"We started the operation with hauling," he recalls, thinking back over 14 years of success with the program. "We had several agri students wanting to work, and we had finally borrowed enough money from a town bank to buy two old trucks. We teamed up with a commercial hay baler and wound up hauling about 120,000 bales a summer over the first three years.

"Then the commercial baler decided to quit. When he did, the chapter bought his equipment." Buck doesn't mention that his signature on the note enabled the chapter to make the purchase. Hope FFA Farms might never have existed without such personal confidence and support. And Buck's enthusiasm has now obviously "rubbed off" on three co-teachers and 400 Hope FFA members.

"Most all of the members work in the hay somehow," shares Troy. "Some of them live on very small farms, some of them come from underprivileged families—many of these boys need jobs. Then, too, a boy who had the best farming program since I've been teaching still works with us sometimes. 'Course, all of us ag teachers get involved in it. When the kids see a teacher or a classmate pick up a 60 pound bale, throw it 20 feet and put it right where they want it, there seems to be some respect develop."

The chapter has earned the respect of the community as well. It's said that anybody in Hope who wants a project done calls the high school and asks for the FFA advisors. If the chapter can't help directly, referrals are offered.

Though the chapter hay crews rarely repeat the dusk to dawn, no holiday haying jobs that were common in earlier years, hard work still abounds. In the off-school months, two or three crews of 15 to 20 men cut, rake, bale and haul hay on lease or short-term arrangement for area farmers, the city of Hope, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and others. Each crew can haul over 100 tons of hay in a typical week, working from mid-morning to late afternoon. Each member is paid a fair wage, and the chapter profits, too.

"Over the years," says Troy, "we've figured what it costs us to maintain and operate our equipment. We set aside that amount, and normally figure 15 to 20 cents a bale for labor. If you haul a thousand bales, and figure around $200 for wages, then the crew just splits it. Five guys, for instance, would make $40 each."

Advisor Troy Buck uses the hay-hauling venture as an outdoor "laboratory."

"The chapter serves as a kind of bookkeeper for the operation," adds Jack Watkins who, along with Thornton Green and Jack Still, teaches and works with Advisor Buck. "Each member is really being paid by the man who owns the field. At the end of the day, we post how much each member earned and how much they took out for things like FFA caps and dues. On Friday we figure the payroll book and give out checks. The money paid the students is theirs to spend."

For the 1980 season, Hope FFA Farms charged their customers 70 cents a bale to cut, rake, bale, haul and stack hay in the barn. Since the chapter owns five tractors, a New Holland haybine, square baler, New Holland rake, several cutting implements and two low tandem trailers, operating costs are significant. Ag mechanics classes can handle most repairs but parts must still be purchased. Any monies earned in the operation are re-invested in the program.

"Many times," says Jack, "money never changes hands. Some of our customers prefer a percentage deal. We'll work for, say, 60 percent of the crop. We put their share in their barn and store ours or sell it right out of the field. If we have hay on hand in our barn, we can often sell and deliver through the winter to farms, the highway department (for mulching) and factories (for packing).

The hay-baling enterprise lasts through half the year, beginning in early May and ending in late October. During school, several FFA members are usually scheduled with only agriculture in the afternoon. "If we get in a tight," says Troy, "with hay that has to be hauled or baled, those afternoon classes get into forage crops real strong. We're very appreciative of the school's cooperation. In real emergencies, students have been excused from class to haul hay as an FFA activity. We get tremendous cooperation from the school and the community."

The haying operation has developed into a useful training tool and practical experience laboratory. Any student who participates must complete an extensive tractor and implement safety course, reason enough why nothing but one minor accident has occurred in the program's history. Students are also immersed in an agribusiness scheme similar to that of any commercial farm. Such a program tailors benefits to the individual.

"I've learned how to cut, rake, bale and fix machinery through this program," vouches sophomore Gary McClure. "It's a very worthwhile operation—you can learn a lot from it, and make good money. Sometimes it's hard work but it beats sittin' home and doing nothing. FFA has taught me a lot. Now I'd like to teach agriculture some day."

Derrick Rogers also wants to teach. The husky 16-year-old says, "I've hauled two years now. So far I've learned the trade of haulin' hay and earned enough money to buy my FFA jacket. Learning how to work is the main thing I've gained."

Hope's hay-baling venture truly exemplifies the ideals set forth in the FFA motto. That's just what an inspired young agriculture teacher hoped for when he signed for two old hay trucks 14 years ago.

FFA IN ACTION

OPERATION PROVIDES SERVICE

"Operation Aurora County" is the ongoing Build Our American Communities and safety program of the Lincoln Area FFA Chapter in South Dakota.

The overall program called "Operation Aurora County" includes work projects of "Got Your Ears On," "Operation Lester Lung" and "Project Tree Plant." These projects have goals set up and are executed by the 28 members of a chapter that has existed since 1978.

The membership of the Lincoln Area FFA Chapter includes public school students from the towns of White Lake and Plankinton, and 17 associate members who are juvenile offenders. Lincoln Area is part of the South Dakota State Training School at Plankinton.

"Operation Aurora County" projects are the result of a safety and community needs survey taken by students. Results of the survey identified the three major health hazards in Aurora County, population 3,600, to be hearing loss, lung ailments and eyesight damage.

The needs of the communities include restoration of trees lost to Dutch Elm disease, community beautification and park improvement and establishment, and operating a research facility for crop and forage production. The Lincoln Area members developed a county action plan which included a public awareness, public involvement and a cooperation campaign with local communities, clubs, businesses and agencies.

"Got Your Ears On" was a project to test for hazardous noise levels. Testing was done on over 1,500 pieces of equipment in 15 work areas and 5 recreational areas. It was performed with a decibel meter purchased by the FFA chapter.

Public awareness meetings were sponsored by FFA to warn people about noise hazards and to inform people about the noise levels of various farm and shop equipment.

Presently, the chapter is working on "Operation Lester Lung" which includes testing county residents with a spirometer. The purpose is to identify lung ailments, as well as maintain a survey of the resident's type of employment, age and personal habits for the county health officials.

Other projects include growing flowers for the Plankinton Centennial and parks, and running tests for the county agent and Soil Conservation District on pythium disease of alfalfa seedlings.

Members "canned" 1,000 trees for distribution in the community. Each can was punch filled with gravel and potting soil.

STUDENT SWAPPING

Mt. Vernon, Missouri, and the Hagerstown, Indiana, FFA Chapters had a member exchange program where each chapter sent three members on a three-day exchange in mid-August.

The purpose of this program was to observe each other's chapter and pick up information and ideas from the opposite chapter that might improve their own chapter.

Mt. Vernon members were Sam Mayberry, Sheila Barnes and Roxanne Bell; Hagerstown members were Bob Hayes, Jamie Fegan and Mark Myers. The chapters are 600 miles apart and the exchangees were transported to St. Louis, the midpoint between the two chapters, by their advisors where the members were exchanged after touring the Gateway Arch (and the Missouri Botanical Gardens on the return trip).

Hagerstown is in eastern Indiana and is principally a corn and soybean producing area. Mt. Vernon is in southwest Missouri and is in a beef cow-calf producing area. The two chapters are near the same size of 80 members. Plans were first made for the exchange after members and advisors had attended the Washington, D.C. Conference Program the same week in 1979.

All of the students were able to visit area farms, attend both the Indiana and Missouri State Fairs and attend a summer FFA meeting in their respective communities. Exchangees stayed with host FFA families.

Coordinating the trip were Jim Howard, Mt. Vernon's advisor and Darrell Forney, Hagerstown's advisor. *(Roxanne Bell, Mt. Vernon Secretary)*

YOU CAN DRIVE YOURSELF TO DEATH: HERE'S HOW

"While driving, every second counts," says Ordie Hogsett, University of Illinois Extension Safety specialist. "It can take only 7/10 of a second to end your life in a crash."

To drive home this point, a University of Illinois Extension Safety specialist explains what can happen when a car traveling 55 mph crashes into a solid barrier.

"At 1/10 second, the front bumper and chrome grill collapse," he explains.

At 2/10 second, the car hood crumbles as it rises, smashing into the windshield. Spinning rear wheels leave the ground. The car's forward momentum brakes, but the driver's body continues to move forward at the vehicle's original speed. His legs snap at the knee joints.

At 3/10 second, the driver's body is still on the seat, torso upright, broken knees pressing against the dashboard, the specialist continues. The plastic and steel frame of the steering wheel begins to bend under his grip. His head is now near the sun visor and his chest is above the steering column.

"At 4/10 second, the car's front 14 inches have been completely demolished," he says. "But the rear end is still traveling at an estimated 35 mph and the driver's body is traveling 55 mph. The half-ton motorblock hits the barrier and the rear of the car rises into the air.

At 5/10 second, the driver's hands bend the steering column into an almost vertical position and gravity throws him on the steering wheel shaft. Jagged steel punctures lungs and arteries; blood enters the lungs.

At 6/10 of a second, the brake pedal shears off at the floorboard and the chassis bends in the middle, shearing body bolts. The driver's head smashes into the windshield and the rear of the car begins its downward fall while spinning wheels dig into the ground.

At 7/10 of a second, the entire car body is forced out of shape, hinges tear and doors spring open. The seat rams forward, pinning the driver against the steering shaft.

"The driver is dead."

When you're driving, every second counts.

CORN FOR THE CAMP

The Truman, Minnesota, FFA Chapter completed its 1980 corn drive for Camp Courage (a camp for mentally and physically handicapped children in Minnesota)

in the end of October. From 1965 to 1980 we have donated over $28,000 to the camp. Our FFA members go around to area businesses and farmers collecting "corn or cash" with 100 percent of the money collected going to Camp Courage. All our members are encouraged to attend and they work in predetermined areas. An added incentive is the free dinner of pop and pizza for those who donate their time and energy.

COMPUTER IN THEIR CLASSROOM

Students in the Marysville, Ohio, vo-ag department are programming the department's new programmable computer to analyze their record books. The unit being used below is the TI-59 programmable computer from Texas Instruments with the aid of programs from Iowa State University. The computer allows students to program production problems such as break even selling price, balancing feed ration, calibrating sprayers, enterprise analysis and investment analysis. *(John Carl, Advisor)*

MONEY-MAKING FRIES

The smell of Westminster, Maryland, FFA's fresh french fries fills the air during the annual arts and crafts fair at the Carroll County Farm Museum. The FFA food booth certainly draws crowds, and keeps FFA in action.

"Everybody that can work, does," vouches Chuck Schuster, FFA advisor. "A

(Continued on Page 34)

"If you so much as nip one of those guys, they make a federal case out of it!"

"I NEVER GOT SUCH A BANG OUTA SHOOTIN' TILL I STARTED LOADIN' MY OWN AMMO."

"My brother Chester's been tellin' me for years: 'Lester, reload them yourself. You won't believe the accuracy. And it's a whole lot cheaper than buying ammo.'

"So I tried it. But I find the best part of reloading is how much more fun shooting is. First time you bring down a deer, you'll wonder why you haven't been reloading for years.

"It's easy to take your first shot at reloading. Pick your basic RCBS Reloader Special tool-and-die combo. Or RCBS' heavy duty Rock Chucker combo. Add one of RCBS' Ammo Crafter kits and you're in business. Better shootin'—and funner shootin'—than you've ever known before.

"Now I'm so good, Chester's sorry he ever got me started. I shoot rings around him. And that's the biggest blast of all."

FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up The Action from Page 33)

committee handles much of the coordination but this is a group effort."

Serving french fries and soda at the southern Maryland festivity is only part of the service rendered by the chapter's booth project. FFA member Carol Johnson, booth committee chairperson, says the fries are a tasty drawing card for the chapter's petting farm.

"This project is tied in with the Food For America program," says Carol. "Just up the walk from the food booth is a small barn and lot. There we keep 3 steers, 4 goats, a pig, 6 rabbits and 4 chickens."

"The animals give kids a chance to see farm livestock close-up," adds Terry McJilton, a Westminster FFA member serving as regional vice-president. "The farm also helps us get acquainted with parents and children, all the while telling them how food gets to their table."

Besides filling stomachs with delicious food and filling minds with agricultural information, the project also serves as a fund raiser. "We pay for several contest and field trips from money earned here," shares Chapter President Lisa Bond.

The chapter plans to continue the project on an annual basis, possibly expanding to include more animals. And, by popular demand, the ever-tempting french fries have found a permanent place as Food For America at the Carroll County fair.

The FFA rig takes its turn on the pulling track during one of the pulling meets.

GOING MODIFIED

In the fall of 1978, the Caribou FFA Chapter in Maine decided to attempt to build a modified pulling tractor. We started with an old Farmall regular tractor that was bought for $25, but then decided this type of tractor required too much effort to make what we thought would be a competitive tractor. So in the spring of 1979, we decided to go with a Massey Harris 30 that a nearby farmer was willing to sell to us.

In the summer of 1979, we got the tractor together after many weeks of work. We missed the first two pulls due to a faulty transmission and related problems.

We've got about $1,500 invested in our tractor altogether now. About $400 was donated by local businesses in parts. We raised the rest by selling oranges and items we built in the shop.

As far as we know ourselves this is the only modified tractor built, owned and operated by the Future Farmers of America in the United States. About 25 sophomores, juniors and seniors have worked on the tractor over a period of two years. The students did all the welding and building themselves except building the engine and that was done by our advisor, Mr. Hale.

This past summer our group competed at the Central Aroostook Young Farmers Tractor Pull, Old Home Week at Woodstock, Northern Maine Fair at Presque Isle and Elephant Days, a Republican party fund raiser tractor pull. Our best pull was 278 feet and we only placed once which was third place.

During the school year '79-'80 we pulled the engine, a 383 Dodge, and had it bored .040 and put in a new crank shaft with bearings. We also did some rebuilding of our drawbar, brakes, shifter and throttle linkage.

This spring we hope to build a new frame which will be somewhat shorter to give us better weight transfer, therefore better traction. We also hope to work out some of the bugs that bothered us in competition last summer, such as a sloppy transmission shifter and weak frontend. *(Rocky Levasseur, Reporter)*

Here's the crew with Advisor Hale and the "big machine" they modified for tractor pulling events.

CHRISTMAS COMES TO LIFE

Each year many chapters are involved in extra community activities during the Christmas season.

Springs Valley, Indiana, FFA originated a living nativity scene for the communities of French Lick and West Baden. The chapter built a 30-foot long by 10 foot deep manger.

The FFA coordinated with five local churches to provide the human characters needed to complete the scene. Church members prepared their own costumes and were in the scene for one-hour shifts. (It was 6°-10° both evenings!)

Chapter members also arranged for a donkey and sheep to be in the scene which was shown Saturday and Sunday evenings, December 20 and 21. According to Roger Wininger, chapter historian, the nativity scene was a huge success and will be repeated next year.

The Moreno Valley, California, members sang carols through the halls of a convalescent home in their area. Their caroling is rewarding and it's fun to get all the chapter members together during the holiday season.

They also sell Christmas trees which FFA buys in Washington. It's the chapter's biggest fund raiser of the year.

McKay, Oregon, also sells trees—375 trees cleared them about $900. During the holidays, FFA went out for pizza and adjourned to the chapter president's home for a party.

Santa Claus stopped by the Pinedale, Wyoming, December chapter meeting and passed out candy canes. He also listened to the secret wishes of the 16- and 17- year olds.

The Zillah, Washington, Chapter sponsored its annual Christmas elf project again this year. Nearly 60 members participated in collecting toys and clothes for needy children in the lower valley.

At the end of three weeks of collection, the Zillah Chapter had collected a large van full of presents. These presents were transported to Yakima and donated to the OPERATION SANTA CLAUS project. Canned goods were also collected. The chapter collected four boxes of foodstuffs for senior citizens and purchased two boxes of apples for senior citizens at the nursing home in Zillah.

FFA members cooperating with FHA members visited the home and brought the food, apples, ten hanging plants from the ornamental horticulture classes and dozens of cookies baked by the FHA. The two groups sang Christmas carols to the senior citizens prior to leaving. Planners for the event were Tom Dingus and Donnita Marsh.

Capital FFA in Olympia, Washington, has an annual Christmas party for FFA

(Continued on Page 36)

Your Supply Service Speaks!!

STATE CONVENTION SPECIAL!!!!
(or other meetings)

You will be on public display at your state convention! Look sharp! Be identified with FFA!!

If you purchase a **minimum** of the following:

Two (2) White Dress Shirts (Item 202) at $8.50 each (Official Dress)

AND

Two (2) Plebe T Shirts (Item 304) at $3.75 each

AND

One (1) Roll Bag (Item FRB-1) at $6.25 each (Total of the above items—$30.75)

WE WILL SEND YOU **FREE OF CHARGE** either One (1) Dress Tie (Item 404) (A $5.75 value) OR if you prefer, One (1) Girls Scarf (Item GS-1) (A $4.75 value) for each complete $30.75 purchase as listed above.

In order to qualify for the free tie or scarf FULL PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER. WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT OPEN ACCOUNT ORDERS!!

You may use the attached coupon or official order blank, but be sure to include your neck size for the Shirts and your chest size for the T Shirts.

Make sure you specify either the Tie or Scarf on your order.

THIS OFFER VOID AFTER JULY 31, 1981

ORDER EARLY TO BE SURE YOU RECEIVE YOUR MERCHANDISE WELL AHEAD OF YOUR STATE CONVENTION.

QTY.	SIZE	ARTICLE	COST EACH	TOTAL
			TOTAL	
			ADD HANDLING	$1.50
			STATE TAX	
			TOTAL ENCLOSED	

MAIL THIS COUPON OR OFFICIAL ORDER FORM TO:

NATIONAL FFA SUPPLY SERVICE
P.O. Box 15159
Alexandria, Va. 22309

Remember! List sizes for shirts and T shirts.
Indicate free tie or scarf.
Include payment with order.
Mail before July 31, 1981.

Ship to _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FFA IN ACTION

(Pick up The Action from Page 34)

members and Alumni. At the party they raise money for March of Dimes by having a "pie push" and members and Alumni volunteer to be targets. They collected $67.75 for the March this year.

Horticulture classes at Oshkosh North, Wisconsin, go into full steam making wreaths and holiday arrangements.

A DAY'S WORK FOR A DAY'S PAY AND THEN SOME

An excited crowd of over 300 people filled the Alex, Oklahoma, High School cafeteria on November 11 for the fifth annual Alex FFA Slave Sale. The sale resulted in what could have been an all-time high average in the state of Oklahoma. Thirty-five Alex FFA'ers sold for a grand total of almost $10,000, averaging $290 per member. The six officers, two sweethearts and advisor averaged almost $500.

Before the sale started, the chapter presented auctioneer Larry Howard a plaque for all his support to the FFA and for serving as auctioneer for all five years. "I've worked a lot of slave sales in this area, but I don't think I've ever seen a community that supports its youth like you," Mr. Howard said. "You've just continually broken your own record, year after year."

Another record was established when Mr. Bill Howerton of Universal Well Logging "purchased" chapter President Russ Florence for $1,600. Chapter Sweetheart Shelly Brand "sold to" Wirt Brand for $510. The First National Bank of Alex spent a total of $1,150, including chapter Queen Sharla Evans for $500. Lindsey Sherwood "purchased" Advisor Tom Strickland for $500, also.

SOCIALIZING FOR SUPPORT

Silver City, New Mexico, FFA Alumni Association held its first organizational meeting September, 1979. This was a "dessert party" aimed at introducing and involving all parents and members of FFA.

The affiliate provided refreshments for an FFA country dance, took the FFA members caroling and surprised them with a pizza party afterward, judged the FFA Creed contest with the winner receiving an FFA jacket. The FFA awards picnic was held with a baseball game following—Alumni vs FFA members.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Billing, Alumni members, donated one acre of land for the use of FFA members in their livestock projects. The Alumni and some local businesses built pens, got feed sheds, built feeders, supplied water, fencing and together with FFA members, provided long hours of labor to complete the compound for use by March, 1980.

A raffle was held to raise money for a tilt table. We exceeded our goal of $1,200 and now the tilt table is available not only to Silver FFA members but all agricultural students countywide.

One of the largest money-making projects was to sell concessions at the county fair. This involved both FFA members and parents for three full days. At the end of the third day, we were able to boast a profit of $1,400, half of which was paid to the fair board to defray fair expenses. *(Chet Brown)*

ANIMAL PRESERVATION

Freshmen agriculture students are being taught small animal taxidermy for the first time at Comeaux High School in Louisiana. Squirrels, for example, which were killed by or given to the students, have been mounted by the 35 freshmen members.

Members practice a new skill of small animal taxidermy after instruction from their advisor.

Some of the students' work was entered in a taxidermy show for high school students. The Comeaux Chapter was awarded a first place plaque in the freshman division. Raymond Hebert won the first place blue ribbon, Jim Adcock won second place, and Ronnie Malagorie won third place for his mount of a black squirrel.

Plans are now being made to teach a taxidermy lab course for one credit. This course would be similar to the welding lab presently being taught. Skills in mounting fish, waterfowl, small animals and large animals would be taught in this proposed class.

Although this taxidermy lab would be taught to juniors and seniors, freshmen students can also learn the skills to enable them to earn money with taxidermy or save money by doing their own taxidermy.

A PROJECT GOOD TO THE CORE

In 1970, the Midland Coal Company planted an apple orchard test plot consisting of 700 trees on five acres of good black soil in West Central, Illinois. The company planned later to plant trees on strip-mined soil and see the differences in production. The company soon found that the first orchard was too much work and the second orchard was never planted.

The company then came to the Elmwood FFA Chapter to ask them to care for the orchard. The leasing terms were as follows; that FFA pay and receive 100

FACTS FOR ACTION

Home Energy Checklist

By using the Big Ten Checklist, you can identify ways of reducing energy use and costs in your home and your members' homes and help the nation conserve energy. The first six items call for little or no expense. Other measures involve expenditures but result in long-term savings of money and energy.

☐	1	Weather-stripping/caulking—look for air cracks around doors, windows, and other openings, such as around pipes and ducts. Seal them by caulking or weather-stripping. Heat and air conditioning escape through cracks.
☐	2	Thermostat—set at 65 degrees in winter and at least 5 degrees lower when sleeping or away. (Higher heating temperatures are recommended for homes with sick, elderly or infants.) Set at 78 degrees in summer. Consider a clock thermostat.
☐	3	Water heaters—this is a major energy user in the home. Try a lower thermostat setting. Consider an insulation wrap. Install water flow restrictors in showers and faucets. They cut hot water use without affecting family comfort. When replacing water heater, choose an energy-efficient model.
☐	4	Heating/cooling system—clean or replace filters as needed. Close vents in unused rooms. Insulate ducts and pipes in unheated spaces. Consider devices which can increase the efficiency of your existing system. When replacing, choose an energy-efficient model.
☐	5	Sunlight—keep direct sunlight out in summer; let it in during winter. Drapes, shutters, awnings, shade trees, glass with reflective film and solar screens help.
☐	6	Appliances/lighting—fully load dryers and clothes and dish washers. Turn off unnecessary lights. If replacing, buy energy-efficient appliances and lighting. Look for appliance efficiency labels—compare operating costs.
☐	7	Attic insulation—check to see if your attic has the recommended level of insulation, including the attic door.
☐	8	Floors and foundation walls—check for adequate insulation under floors, around basement, crawl space and foundation walls.
☐	9	Windows and doors—consider storm windows, doors, or double-paned glass to keep in heat and air conditioning.
☐	10	Exterior walls—consider adding insulation, particularly when remodeling or re-siding your house.

A service of the National Institute of Building Sciences and the United States Department of Energy..

percent of all expenses and income, and two, the chapter was responsible for upkeep and care for the orchard year around. The chapter would have no land rent expense. The mutual agreement was set up as a learning experience for the chapter members.

In 1973, after the chapter took over the responsibility for the orchard, the members worked hard for five years spraying, mowing, pruning, putting bee hives out and giving special care anxiously awaiting the first year of production. In 1978, the first yield consisted of 180 apples.

Despite the small yield, the chapter did not give up. The members continued to work hard, pruning the orchard in the month of March, dormant spraying the trees in early April, then spraying fungicide and insecticide on the trees every two to three weeks until harvesttime, also mowing the grass under the trees every three to four weeks through the season, and also hoping and waiting for a bountiful yield.

Finally, in the first week of October, the members started picking the apples, sorting and making cider out of the windfalls and bruised. Ten days later the picking was done. The orchard produced 220 bushels of apples total, some of which were made into 50 gallons of cider.

After the season was over, the chapter decided it would be a wise idea to have a manager of the orchard since the prospects for future production looked bright. It was decided that the manager of the orchard would be past chapter president Kurt Christ, who is responsible for all the transactions pertaining to the orchard. He takes care of the bookwork, sets up spray schedules and working projects for members in the orchard.

This past year, 1980, had the greatest production ever. The chapter predicted a big production for the year and decided to advertise in the local newspaper. The ad promoted—pick-your-own apples and fresh cider daily. The day the ad came out in the paper the orchard was filled with people picking apples. Two-thirds of the apples were picked by individuals picking their own, the other one-third was picked by the members and made into cider.

The chapter leased a large stationary cider press located only a quarter of a mile from the orchard. The picking and pressing was expected to take eight weeks, but was cut in half by completing the pressing in less than four weeks.

The pick-your-own worked so well the chapter plans to use this method totally next year.

The assistant manager, chapter treasurer Ron Ekena, was at the gate where customers came in. He would direct the people to the different varieties in the orchard. He would charge them accordingly as they left. The chapter also sold 200 bushels to the neighboring Brimfield FFA Chapter to make into cider and sell in their community.

After the work was done the manager and assistant manager presented the yearly figures of production to the chapter. The orchard produced 68,720 pounds of apples and the windfalls and bruised produced 625 gallons of cider. The chapter grossed over $4,500 with money still coming in. This is one of our larger moneymaking projects outside of our cattle and soybean projects. *(Kurt Christ, Manager)*

ACTION LINES

- Plant some bright red or yellow flowers around the flag pole.
- Spotlight azalea beds in bloom.
- Send a thank you note to your Sunday School teacher.
- How about a sandwich of bologna, lettuce with blue cheese dressing?
- Get into bicycling.
- Bring home some bubble gum for little brother.
- Offer to type the church bulletin.
- Decorate the kitchen table with a branch of the apple tree in bloom.
- Put life saving gear at the pond.
- Can you stop talking in class?
- Go raise the window.
- Make a submarine sandwich as long as you are tall.
- Catch Spring Fever!
- Write one letter to your brother at college.
- Improve your jogging distance.
- Whistle while you dry the pots and pans.

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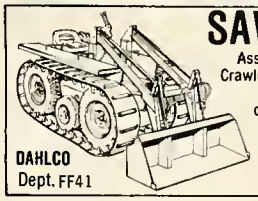

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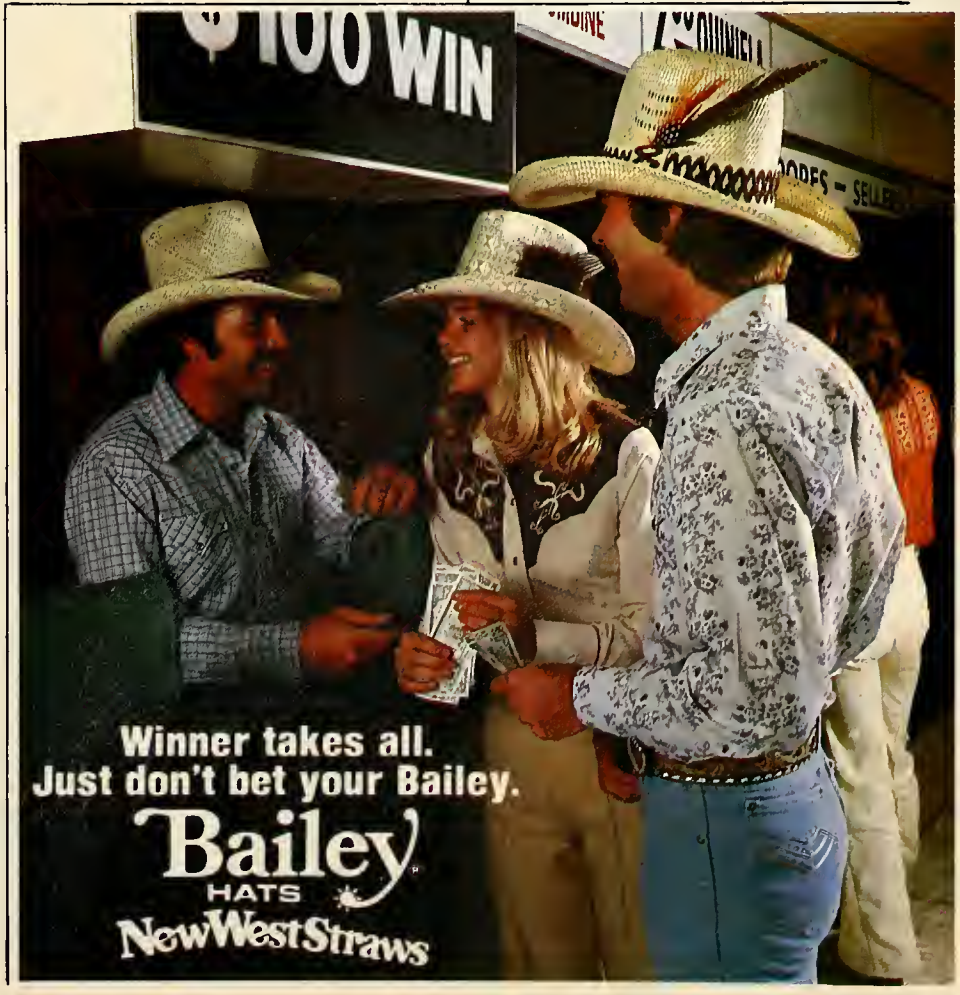


Photos by Author

A Start Alone

As a junior in high school, Bart Davis dreamed of owning and operating a lawn service business—now he's made that dream come true.

By Jeffrey Tennant

BEAUTIFUL Southern estates line the country roads surrounding Frankfort, Kentucky. Thoroughbred horses play friskily behind white board fences planted in lawns and fields that resemble great green rolls of fine carpet. Even in the villages and suburbs, where Thoroughbreds don't frolic, lawns and grounds are unusually immaculate—due in part to hearty grasses, fertile soil and Bart Davis.

"Seems like everybody around here wants their yard looking nice," says Bart, a 19-year-old Franklin County FFA member. "After recognizing that demand and getting lots of encouragement from my ag teachers, parents and a former boss, I started Davis Lawn Service. Business never was slow—now the jobs seem unlimited."

Community pride does boost business for Bart's own enterprise, but consistently good service keeps customers asking for more. Bart's ability, his entrepreneurial success and an outstanding FFA record sufficiently impressed a panel of tough judges last November—Bart won top national honors in FFA's Turf and Landscape Management proficiency award program.

"He's very conscientious," says Terry Bowlds, Franklin County vocational agriculture instructor who guided Bart through much of his horticulture studies. "He's also got the skills, the responsibility and the desire to make it on his own. Such traits show in his work."

Bart didn't build his goals and acquire his proficiencies overnight. He never thought of owning his own business so

Above, Bart hunts a useful spare part. Below, teachers Terry Bowlds and Gordon Shearer help.

Bart and instructor Bowlds assess the usefulness of newly added equipment.

in Agribusiness

soon, but working in agriculture has always been in his plans.

"My dad was a vo-ag teacher in Oklahoma before we moved here," shares Bart, "so I grew up with agriculture. I never thought of horticulture much until the summer between my eighth and ninth grades. That summer I worked at a nursery and greenhouse, mainly watering plants and loading cars. But I really enjoyed the work—from the care of plants to working with people. I hung around the store a lot, always bugging the management to let me work with the landscape crew. Eventually they put me on—that work experience has been very valuable."

"Bart wouldn't be satisfied just loading trucks," shares Terry. "He showed his employer a desire to learn and do more than just menial tasks. Because of his attitude and obvious direction, Gordon (Shearer, chapter advisor) and I gave Bart independence in his agriculture program."

Bart's teachers confide that the aspiring horticulturist would often come with questions and problems requiring considerable research to find the answers. Often, Bart would take part in the fact-finding process, learning other things while he searched. After completing required studies in areas such as soil science, plant growth, recordkeeping, shop-work and fertilization, Bart seemed ready to make a big step.

"After working in a commercial nursery and studying plant science in vo-ag," Bart says, "I began to want more independence in my job. My employer, Hershal Watson, had taught me a lot and encouraged me to start my own small lawn maintenance business. Going into my senior year, I would be allowed to take classes in the morning and work in the afternoon. I had the time and the encouragement to start. All I needed was equipment."

Bart started doing small jobs with two small push mowers. Then, in the spring term of his junior year, Bart decided to risk a financial investment. With his parents, Rose and B. Glen Davis, co-signing the note, Bart secured a loan for the purchase of two Bunton mowers worth over $1,900. A surprise awaited.

"I never dreamed the mowers would pay for themselves by the first summer," says Bart, recalling the influx of jobs during his first business year. In anticipation of similar business, and with money earned over the summer, two gas-powered weed trimmers and a pickup were purchased. Bart also called on his shop skills in the construction of a custom trailer designed for easy transport, loading and unloading of the massive mowing machines.

As the venture prospered, instructor Terry continued her encouragement. "I told him a friend of mine put himself through college doing the same type of business," she says. "Bart didn't believe me. Now his mother has said jokingly she's going to start charging him for taking phone calls."

Davis Lawn Service now consists of 2 pickups, 3 large mowers, 2 smaller mowers, 2 weedeaters, a trailer, thatcher and various handtools. Bart values his current inventory at over $17,000 and plans to purchase a tractor and large field mower for landscaping jobs. As the business grows, so too does the labor force required to keep up with customer demand.

"I've had several friends work for me," says Bart, adding that younger brother Jim earned his Chapter Farmer degree working in the business. Bart has earned the State Farmer degree, tallying hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars in his supervised occupational experience program.

"The bulk of our business is mowing grass," Bart details, "so in springtime we're the busiest. Pruning, landscaping and mowing is done in all kinds of weather. In autumn, we get lots of leaf-raking jobs. Summertime is a little slow, and winter affords a good time to maintain and repair machinery, straighten out the books, do taxes, buy new or additional equipment and get prepared for the next year.

Bart is careful to ensure sufficient income to keep the bills paid. His mowing service, which is normally booked solid with regular customers getting first priority, includes cutting, trimming, clearing sidewalks and raking up. Bart's minimum price is $15, gas and machinery included. He does assign prices based on square footage, with jobs that "look like a hayfield" costing $60 plus.

"Lawn maintenance can include much more than just mowing and trimming," says Bart. "Dethatching is also a common job, but more complicated. Dethatching can actually save a lawn from dying."

Dethatching means literally, "removing the thatch." Thatch is an often thick covering of dead grass and roots. The cover tends to "suffocate" the lawn, barring sunlight and aeration, absorbing moisture and harboring insects. Bart's thatcher is able to lift up the mat, enabling a worker to rake and remove the thatch. Chemical application, fertilizer treatment and re-seeding often follow a dethatching job. Much work goes into planning and executing a lawn care program.

"Bart's got the initiative to get the job done," says FFA Advisor Gordon Shearer, who taught Bart many shop skills necessary for equipment maintenance. "And he uses wise management practices. He was a good student in shop, good enough now to overhaul an engine. Such knowledge will save him money he had been paying out."

Bart says FFA and vo-ag have not only built his shop skills. "It's helped me in dealing with people," he says. "I also needed discipline in keeping records." Terry adds, "FFA gave him some important, special goals to reach." Holding offices such as state vice-president challenged Bart to ever higher goals. One ambition is success for Davis Lawn Service. A college degree is in the works, too.

"I have a lot of questions about things," Bart shares. "And I'd like to find the answers on my own. I also think the degree would give me a certain amount of security and more versatility."

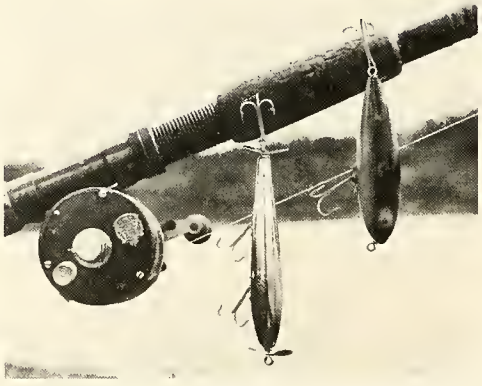
That's just like Bart—plan ahead, play all the options and move toward a solid future.

"There it is—he said we couldn't miss it."

A rapacious bass tries to destroy a surface plug.

Bass Fishing At Its Best

By Russell Tinsley



The splutterer has propellers while the stick lure, right, does not.

A small surface plug often will fool bass when a larger lure will not cause them to strike.

BASS fishing is a sport of fads. The current rage is the so-called "crankbait," a lipped plug that dives and wiggles when retrieved. Manufacturers are mass-producing the fakes in every shape and color imaginable, and while the crankbait certainly is a fish getter, it is no equal to the surface lure for thrills and excitement.

Underwater, you can feel the solid wallop of a bass, but up on top, there to see, the act becomes a drama, complete with sound and motion. One moment the plug is in sight; the next lost in a noisy splash.

The topwater plug dates back to the beginning of bass fishing, the nirst crude artificial that James Heddon whittled from a chunk of wood. Today, many generations later, it continues to do its thing, as effective in a farm or ranch pond as it is in a large reservoir.

Maybe more so. A pond is rich in aquatic life; grasshoppers inhabit the bordering grass. A frog sunning itself on the surface, a crippled minnow struggling on top, a 'hopper that misjudges its flight and crash lands in the water . . . all are easy prey for a bass.

Drop a look-alike fake in the fish's striking range and this might trigger a reflex response. By the time the bass realizes it has been duped, it is too late—a sharp hook is buried firmly into the jaw.

There is, however, more to this than random casting and retrieving. As with any fishing, the emphasis is on where, when and how. Each is equally as important to eventual success.

Where: Bass like to hang around what fishermen call "structure." This might be a weedbed, a brushpile, drowned tree or stump. In this fishing, casting accuracy is at a premium. A bass frequently snuggles right against the cover. Miss your mark by a foot or more and the plug goes unmolested; put it up tight to the weedbed or stump and you are apt to be greeted with an explosive splash.

While a surface plug might pull a bass from deep down, it does best in fairly shallow water, such as when fish are prowling the shorelines in search of food. On a pond, for example, slip to water's edge and cast in either direction, close to and parallel to the bank, before trying out deeper. Concentrate on stealth. Bass in shallow water are quick to see the approaching human or

feel vibrations of his footsteps. From a boat, fish toward the shore. If there is any visible cover, probe around it thoroughly.

When: Bass begin looking up for something to eat about the time spring wildflowers burst into bloom. Since the fish's eyes are sensitive to light, it is more likely to be in shallow water early and late in the day or when the sky is overcast. In the springtime, bass will be active for longer periods than they will later on into the summer. But early (dawn to sunrise) and late (sunset to dusk) are consistently the prime movement periods. In mid-day, as fish drift back to deeper depths, you normally will do better with an underwater lure.

How: This factor must be broken into sub parts: type, size and color or bait; the retrieve.

There is no guessing as to what might turn the fish on. Sometimes it is nothing more than switching from one bait type to another. There are various designs: the popping or chugging model; the splutterer; the stick lure; and what is called a "buzz bait." The first three are floating plugs; the last is a spinnerbait with a huge blade which pinwheels on the water as it is reeled steadily on top.

The chugging type has a concave face that dips and pops as it is retrieved in jerks; the splutterer has a propeller aft or maybe two, one forward and one back, which turn as the bait is reeled or yanked to create the spluttering noise; and the stick lure resembles a cigar, with no built-in noise making capability, a lure which attracts more by motion than sound, as erratic yanks of the rod tip cause it to pirouette on the surface.

But not to be overlooked are the floating-diving types. This is any lure which floats at rest, but as you reel, it dives into the water, wiggling as you bring it in. The venerable Lucky 13 is such a plug. Yet perhaps the most popular is the minnow-shaped, the original Rapala and its many imitators.

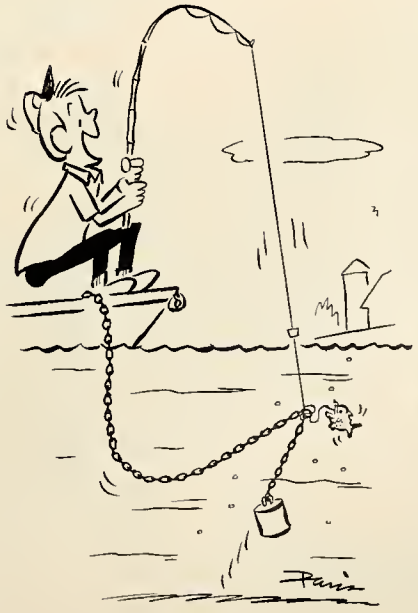
When fishing a surface lure, I prefer a light ripple on the water rather than calm; the breeze makes it difficult for fish to see any distance. If the wind is moderate to strong, use a noisy plug, such as a popper or splutterer with large propellers. Retrieve in forceful jerks to increase the noise range. Bass locate food by both sight and sound.

The minnow-shaped plug is one of my old dependables. I initially show it as a topwater lure, like a hurt baitfish trying to regain equilibrium, manipulating the rod tip to make it dip and gurgle, and if this doesn't light a bass's fuse, only then do I yank it under as I reel in. If a bass is eyeing the struggling plug, it frequently attacks the moment it spurts into a dive, probably believing the minnow is escaping.

Should a large plug not produce, try one junior-sized. Little baits often rate more attention than the jumbos. And I am convinced with topwater lures, size and action are more important than color, although switching from a light-finish bait to a dark, or vice-versa, might do the trick. Nonetheless, if you have confidence in a particular color scheme, by all means show it around. Anything which makes you better concentrate on what you are doing is a definite plus.

With the retrieve, it is easy to get trapped into a routine, reeling in unimaginative stop-and-go jerks. If this isn't working, vary your rhythm. Let the plug lie motionless for a few moments before wiggling it. At times a spluttering plug reeled steadily, trailing a wake, is the secret. And infrequently, a bait doing nothing is the ticket. Cast and allow the lure to float aimlessly for at least a half-minute, which can seem like eternity. Only then raise your rod tip to move it slightly. For some reason, a bass will hit a plug dead on the water. Why, I don't know. The only predictable thing about bass is their unpredictability.

And finally, fish slowly. The one mistake most of us make is we fish too fast. Don't hurry to the next cast. Think positively and believe that on each cast you are going to get a strike. This is a game of nervous anticipation. Give every fishy-looking spot a fair shake. I have thrown around a stump or log a dozen or more times before a bass decided to hit—a sudden eruption of water. There is no thrill quite like it, bass fishing at its rousing best.



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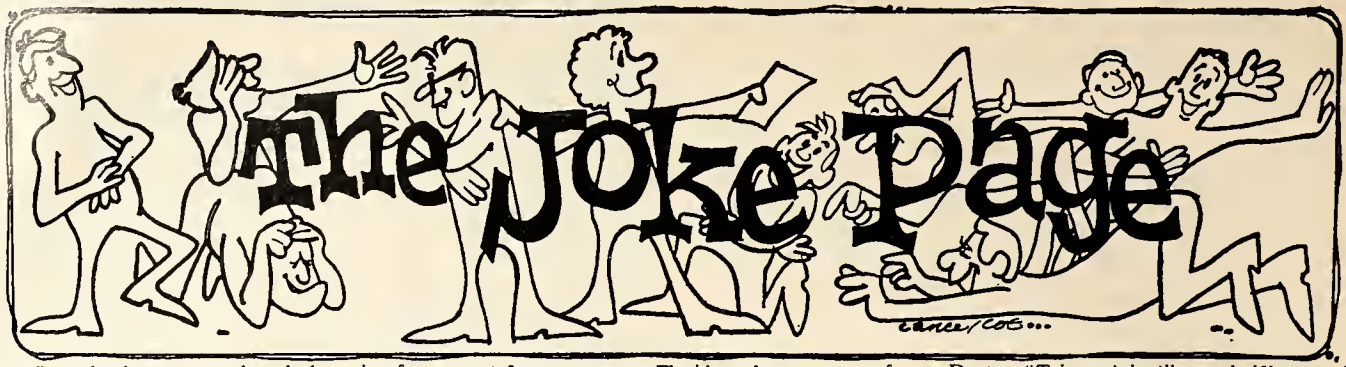


When the homeowner heard the price for cleaning his chimney, he said, *"Forget it, I'll clean it myself."*

"Okay," said the chimney sweep with a shrug, *"soot yourself."*

Byron Edwards
Adairsville, Georgia

A fellow got on a bus one morning and noticed someone carrying a huge spray of yellow flowers. *"Pardon me,"* he said to her, *"but is that forsythia?"*

"No," she replied, *"It's for Mildred."*

Chuck Sukut
Sisseton, South Dakota

"I've got to call the Pentagon—army worms are attacking the navy beans."

A woman went to a doctor and said, *"Doctor, I think there's something wrong with me. I don't feel well."*

The doctor said, *"Look out this window and stick out your tongue."*

The woman did this for five minutes. Then she asked, *"Will this help me?"*

The doctor said, *"I don't know about you, but it will help me. I'm furious at the man across the street."*

Jattie Smeaton
Stockton, California

Andy: *"Did you hear about the man that lost his left side?"*

John: *"No."*

Andy: *"He's all right now."*

Norman Rak
Colden, New York

"John, dear," said Mrs. Brown, *"such an odd thing happened today. The clock fell off the wall and if it had fallen a moment sooner, it would have hit Mother."*

"I always said that clock was slow."

Brian Smith
Flintstone, Maryland

A farm cat went to Florida and saw a group of old cats sitting together talking. *"That's not for me,"* he said and journeyed on. Soon he came upon a group of cats disco dancing. A little sadly he said, *"That's not for me either,"* and continued on. Then he spotted a cluster of mice on skateboards. *"Ah,"* he said, *"that's for me—meals on wheels."*

Bobbie Mae Cooley
Bowen, Illinois

The matronly woman was being examined for a bronchial infection when the young doctor discovered that her chest was covered with Christmas seals. The amazed medic questioned her immediately and the woman explained: *"I've been doing it for years, Doctor. It says on each seal that it's one way to fight TB."*

Thomas LaMance
Modesto, California

"And what did Mama's little darling learn at school today?" asked the doting mother.

Grimly her son replied, *"I learned two punk kids not to call me 'Mama's little darling.'"*

Jennifer Goode
Campbellsville, Kentucky

Yesterday I got a real good bird dog. I took it to town with me and it went up to a man and pointed at him. I said, *"Have you got any birds on you?"* The man answered, *"No, I don't."* I asked him what his name was. He said, *"Bob White."*

Scott Guess
Ranger, Georgia

Doctor: *"Take a pink pill every half hour with a glass of water. Take a blue pill every two hours with a glass of water. Then before you go to bed, take a green pill with a glass of water."*

Patient: *"What is wrong with me, Doctor?"*

Doctor: *"You're not drinking enough water."*

Jeanette Clements
Big Rock, Tennessee

"You will have exactly two hours," said the professor as he handed out examination papers to a roomful of students. *"Under no circumstances will I accept a paper given to me after the deadline has passed."* Two hours later he broke the silence. *"Time is up,"* he said. But one student continued to work furiously.

The professor was glaring out from behind the pile of exams when the tardy student approached him almost 15 minutes later, with his exam clutched behind his back. When the professor refused to accept it, the student drew himself up to full stature and asked, *"Professor, do you know who I am?"*

"No," said the professor.

"Terrific," replied the student and he stuffed his paper into the middle of the pile.

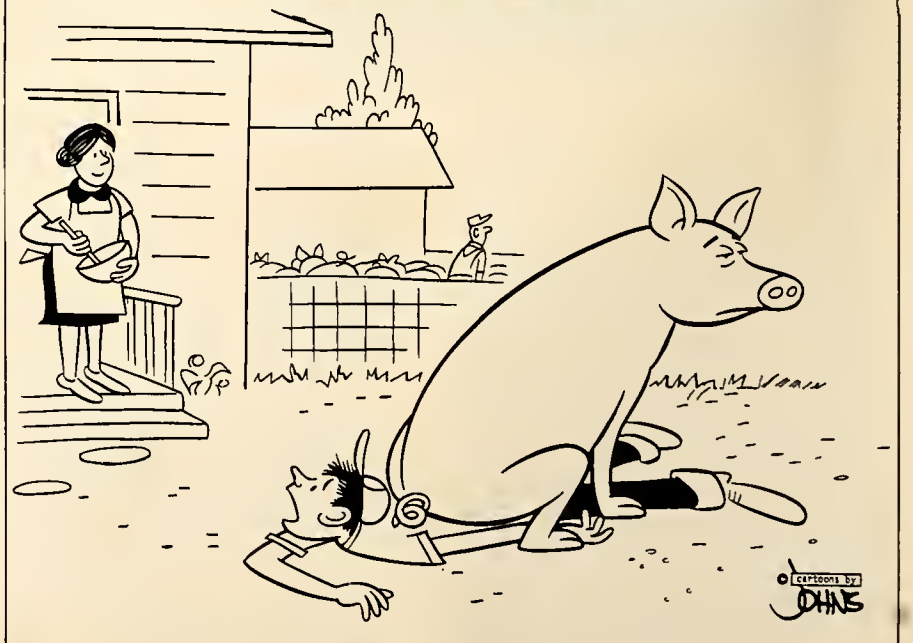
Mark Winchester
Rainier, Washington

"These are very strong shirts," the salesman said, *"They simply laugh at laundry."*

"I know that kind," the customer said. *"I had some which came back with their sides split."*

Neal Swicegood
Lexington, North Carolina

Charlie, the Greenhand



"Show her who's boss? But that's the trouble—she already knows!"

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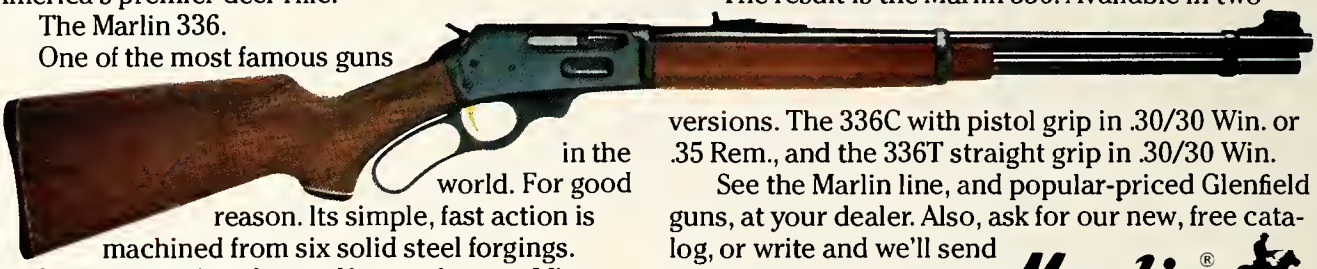

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